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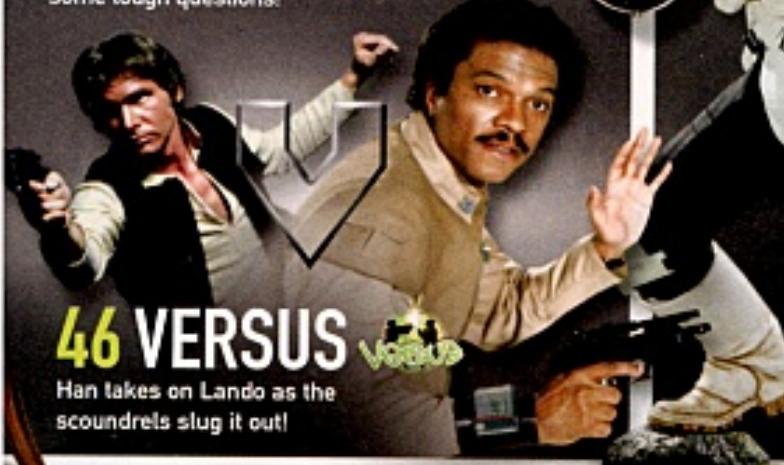
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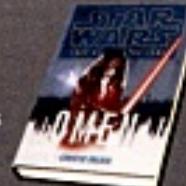


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EDITOR'S WELCOME

"Smaller in number are we, but larger in mind."

—Yoda, *Star Wars: The Clone Wars, "Ambush"*

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With the stunning first season of *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* now complete, we've got a brief chance to catch our breath and look back at the show's fantastic opening run of episodes. It's certainly been a strong start for this bold new venture. With production on the second season well underway, we caught up with Tom Kane, whose breathless narration at the start of each episode sets the scene for the half hour to follow; and his remarkable vocals have breathed new life into Yoda. But that's not his only contribution to the *Star Wars* universe! Check out our interview with him on page 15.

Also in this issue is a well-deserved tribute to the Ewoks! These brave warriors who played their part in bringing the Empire to its knees are profiled on page 28. We say a big "yub nub!" to Wicket himself, actor Warwick Davis, who found his way into the *Star Wars* galaxy via a chance phonecall by an observant relative and hasn't looked back since!

Speaking of being observant, I was one of the many fans lucky enough to attend the fantastic *Star Wars: A Musical Journey* at the O2 in London's Docklands. Little did I realize at the time that the great man himself, George Lucas, was seated meters away and I never even noticed! D'oh! I did get to speak to the actor Simon Pegg, who, despite



YODA MAN!

Jump to hyperspace and head for page 32 as we present our guide to the second half of Season One of *The Clone Wars*!

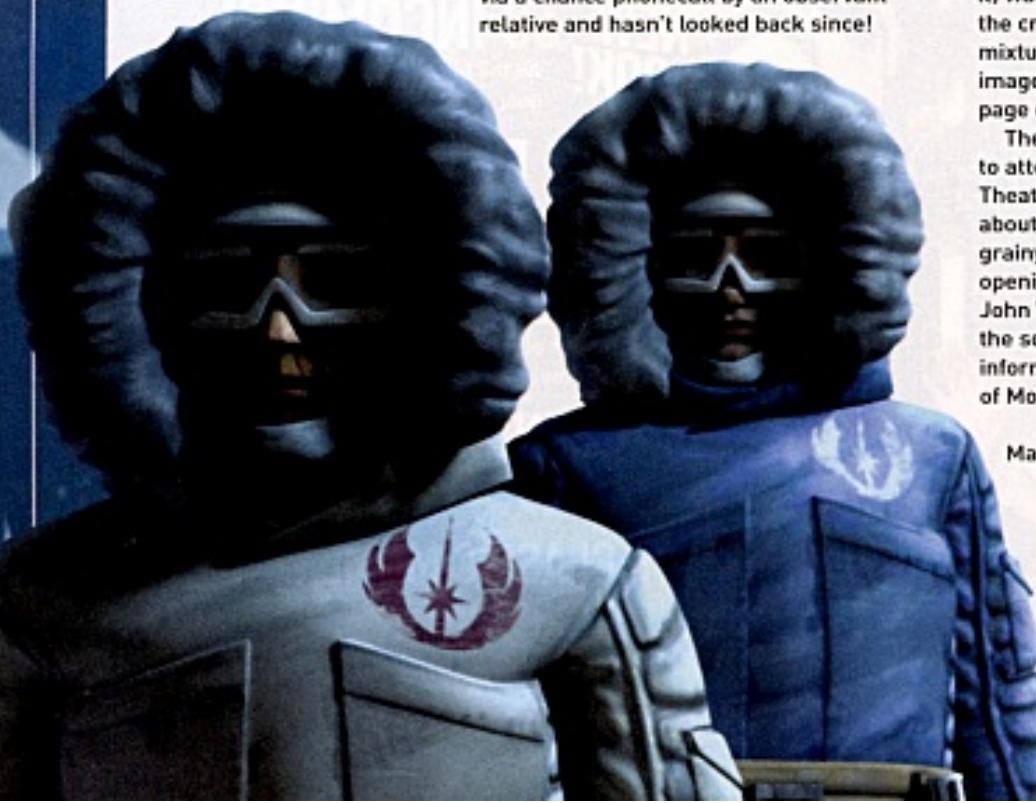


making a shift to the dark side [or *Star Trek* as we like to call it] was as thrilled as the rest of the crowd by the powerful mixture of live music and images. Check out our full report on page eight.

The night before, I was lucky enough to attend an event at the National Film Theatre, hosted by Ben Burtt. He talked about his career and presented a rare, grainy early version of *A New Hope*'s opening crawl! He also disclosed that John Wayne's processed voice provided the sounds of Garindan, the Imperial informant who we see on the streets of Mos Eisley! Who knew?

May the Force be with you all,

Jonathan Wilkins, Editor



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BEHIND THE SCENES OF STAR WARS: A MUSICAL JOURNEY

SPECIAL
REPORT!

HOW DO YOU TURN JOHN WILLIAMS' CLASSIC
STAR WARS SCORES INTO A MAJOR LIVE
MUSICAL EVENT? JAMES BURNS FINDS OUT!



Star Wars: A Musical Journey, narrated by Anthony Daniels, managed to pack in 40,000 expectant fans over two sold-out nights during its worldwide premiere at London's O2 center on April 10 and 11.

Fans may remember that the *Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith* soundtrack included an extra bonus DVD that featured music from all six films set to images from the saga with commentaries by Ian McDiarmid. Lucasfilm wanted to eventually bring the experience to a live audience.

"We were busy then with releasing the films, but a couple of years ago Another Planet Entertainment proposed a very similar idea," says Howard Roffman, head of Lucas Licensing. "When they

came to us, I realized that here was a company that had the wherewithal to put it together and make it happen. We went to John Williams and got his agreement and participation, and we were off."

PAD



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CLONE WARS

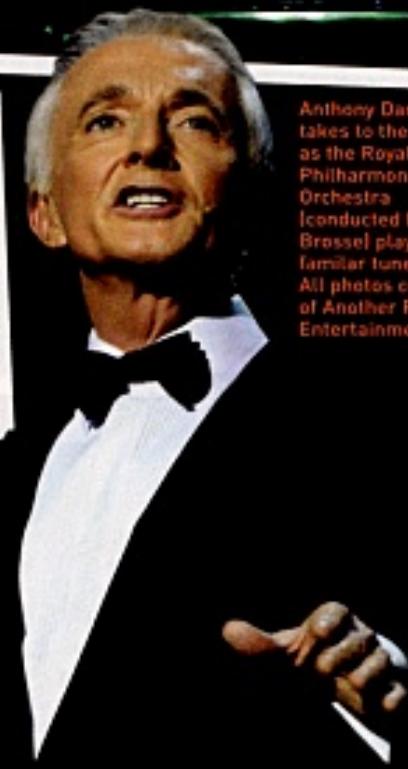
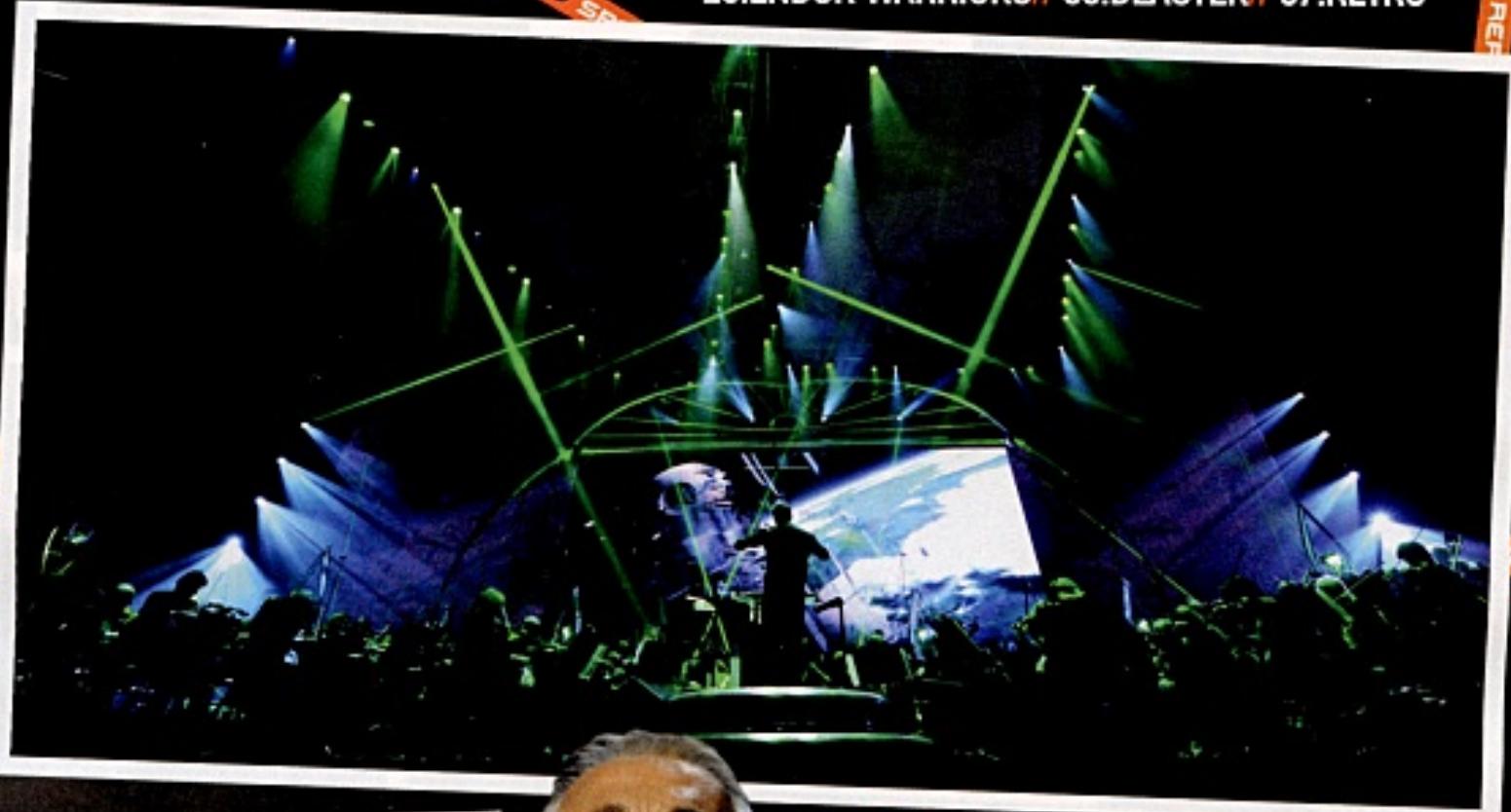
EPISODE GUIDE
SEASON ONE PT2

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Meet the man behind the fur as Wicket the Ewok swings into action!

WARWICK DAVIS
INTERVIEW

PLUS: 13. INTERROGATION DROID // 42. MIMOBOTS
28. ENDOR WARRIORS // 53. BLASTER // 67. RETRO



Anthony Daniels takes to the stage as the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (conducted by Dirk Brossé) plays some familiar tunes! All photos courtesy of Another Planet Entertainment.

A JOURNEY BEGINS

The development of the show began when John Williams put together a suite of the "best of the best" music from all six films. Lucasfilm then created new videos that corresponded to each of the sections. Roffman explains, "We faced the decision of whether to just try to tell a story in sequence, which actually would have been very difficult to do.

It's a combination of a narrative thread, but also delves deeper into themes and ideas from the films.

I think the end result lets you hear the music of *Star Wars* in a way that you've never heard it before and see the movies in a way that you've never seen them before."

Why was London chosen to premiere the show?

"All the elements came together in London," Roffman says. "The O2 had an opening in its schedule, the Royal Philharmonic was available, and

LAUNCH PAD

BEHIND THE SCENES OF
STAR WARS: A MUSICAL JOURNEY

SPECIAL REPORT!

PORT

Another Planet came to us and said, 'We think this is the place to begin.' We loved the idea because London is the home of so much of the Star Wars legacy. Most of the movies were filmed there and every one of the soundtracks was created there."

With everything in place, a narrator was required to bring all the elements together, and who better than a veteran actor from all six Star Wars movies as well as *The Clone Wars*: C-3PO himself, Anthony Daniels?

Daniels describes the musical accompaniment as clips taken from the movies put into a unique order and woven with documentary footage, photographs, production stills, and concept drawings. "It's all combined very cleverly into something that evokes a general idea, wakes your memories, and gives you new ideas—and all the time in sync with the music. The music is live. I think that is terrifying, because when I watched them doing the scoring sessions at Abbey Road Studios they could go back and do parts again if they didn't quite fit. If the big 'boom' doesn't happen when the explosion happens you just go back and do it again a bit faster."

Standing on stage in front of 20,000 people doesn't scare Daniels too much. "Curiously, there's something in my brain that says that's OK," he says. "It's standing in front of 20 that I find very nerve-wracking. I am actually very excited, as you can imagine. The biggest



audience I've had for a concert so far was 14,000 in America and I coped with that, and more importantly they coped with me! But the privilege of being allowed to stand up in front of everybody and say things—and that's all I'm doing—is very unusual and it's quite a buzz."

While rehearsals took part in several widespread venues, the orchestra and narrator didn't rehearse together until a week before the premiere performance. For these rehearsals, a special place was needed, and there was nowhere more special than Elstree Studios in Borehamwood where the original trilogy and pickup shots for the prequels were filmed. After a few days at Elstree the whole production moved to the O2 in Greenwich, where rehearsals continued until opening night.

Accompanying the show was a unique exhibition of *Star Wars* costumes and props. For the first time ever, the costumes of Plo Koon and Kit Fisto as



STAR WARS

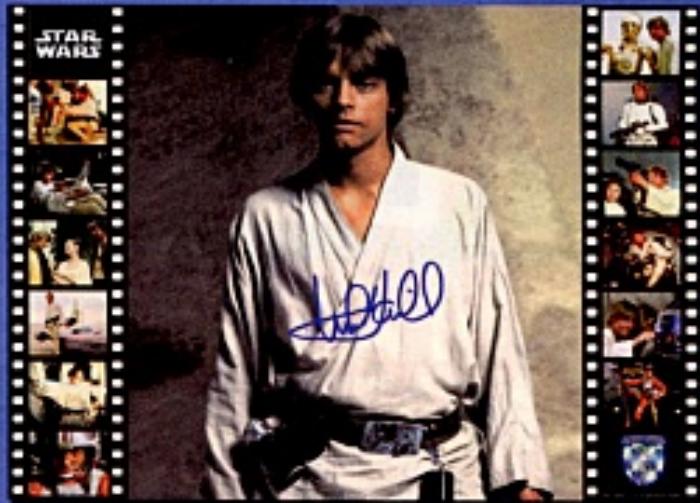
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INTERROGATION DROID!

**INSIDER MAKES AN APPOINTMENT WITH STAR WARS ROYALTY AS
CARRIE FISHER TELLS IT LIKE IT IS! WORDS: CHRIS SPITALE**

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Leia's royal title of Princess followed her throughout the galaxy. If Carrie Fisher had a title before her name, what would it be? Your Royal Holiness.

The title of your memoirs is *Wishful Drinking*—if you were channeling Leia and penning her life story, what would it be called?

What I'm going to call the next book—*The Empire Strikes Wishful Drinking*.

If the strong-willed Padmé Amidala had lived to raise the headstrong Leia, what do you think would have been the dynamic of their mother/daughter relationship?

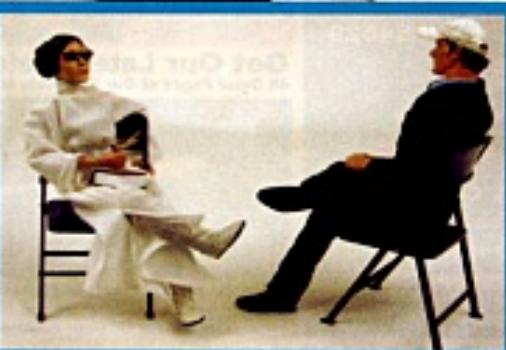
Well, there would have been a lot of envy—not too dissimilar from my own because it's always unpleasant when your parent is better looking than you are! There would have been a very big rebellion, but hopefully, as a teenager, I'd have made her feel a little less clever.

In *Return of the Jedi*, Leia was clearly in great shape for her summer beach wear. Besides the usual cardio [from always running from the Empire], how do you think she was able to maintain such a lean physique?

There's no time to eat. And everything spills when you make the jump to lightspeed!

If you were playing armchair therapist to the Princess, what kind of advice would you offer?

Get out of space! You know, she's obsessive-compulsive, so take more time for yourself. Go shopping; get a massage! Don't always be in battle; it's just gonna wear you out and give you heart trouble before you're 60!

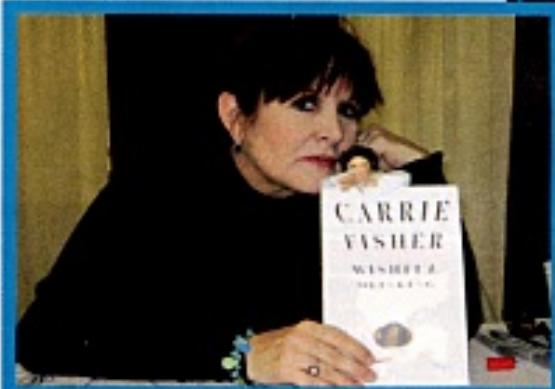


**NAME: CARRIE FISHER
ALIAS: PRINCESS LEIA ORGANA**

**FIRST APPEARANCE:
EPISODE IV A NEW HOPE**

Do you think she'd have been a little more easygoing with Han if she were on Prozac? No, there's just now way you are gonna be easy going with Han!

If Leia had visited the Mos Eisley cantina, which cocktail would she have preferred? A smoking mynock!



Let's say that after several smoking mynocks Leia decided to karaoke while the cantina band played backup. What song would she select? Billie Jean (You're Not My Lover).

If you were recasting *Star Wars* today, which actress would you cast in the role of Princess Leia?

Maybe Ellen Page from *Juno*. I also like Mary Louise Parker from *Weeds*. But I don't know if they'd need gaffer's tape.

Since you are a highly-respected script doctor, which *Star Wars* scene would you have liked to have changed?

I would have given myself—as I tried to do—dialogue when I was with Jabba the Hutt. As my co-travelers [Luke, Han and Chewie] are walking away, I wanted to say, "Don't worry about me, I'll be fine... Seriously."



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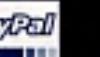
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TOM KANE—MASTER OF ANIMATED VOICES FOR STAR WARS AND BEYOND—COMMANDS THE CLONE WARS AS THE VOICE OF JEDI MASTER YODA. WORDS: SCOTT CHERNOFF

VOICE OF THE FORCE

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YODA'S DUELING DOCKS

Yoda—the ultimate Jedi Master, a character known and loved throughout the world, whose voice was created by one of the most legendary puppeteers and voice actors of all time. You'd think that taking over the character from Frank Oz would be such a daunting and difficult assignment that it would be all one performer could handle.

But not when that performer is Tom Kane, one of the top voice-over artists working today, and the man who has given voice to some of the most memorable and iconic animated characters of the last dozen years. In fact, Yoda is merely the most prominent of a seemingly endless stream of Star Wars roles Kane continues to tackle. A born mimic, Kane even admitted he dedicated no time to preparing for the powerful role—other than the

years he'd spent as a devoted Star Wars fan.

"The Yoda thing just kind of happened," Kane tells *Star Wars Insider*, explaining that he was already in a recording studio playing another character for a LucasArts video game. "I'm a Star Wars nerd," he says, "so I would sit there looking through the script, and I would try to do my best Grand Moff Tarkin or Boba Fett or whoever. I was goofing around one day, and saw some Yoda lines, so of course I was trying to do my very best Yoda, and the producer looked up and said, 'Can you do that again?'

"What I didn't know," he continues, "was that Frank Oz was very busy at that point because he had become a very successful director. So they played my Yoda for George Lucas and got approval, and suddenly I found myself doing Yoda for videogames, and that led to toys and commercials. When it came time to do *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*, somebody up north said, 'We're just going to use Tom.'"

CAST OF CHARACTERS

By that point, of course, George Lucas and his team had good reason to be confident in Kane's formidable abilities. He'd already played Yoda in several LucasArts games, such as *Jedi Power Battles*,

Star Wars: Galactic Battlegrounds, *Super Bombad Racing*, *Jedi Starfighter*, *Star Wars: Battlefront I* and *II*, and the videogame adaptation of *Revenge of the Sith*, among many others. Most memorably of all,

Kane voiced the sage Jedi Master in the *Clone Wars* micro-series that ran on Cartoon Network from 2003 to 2005.

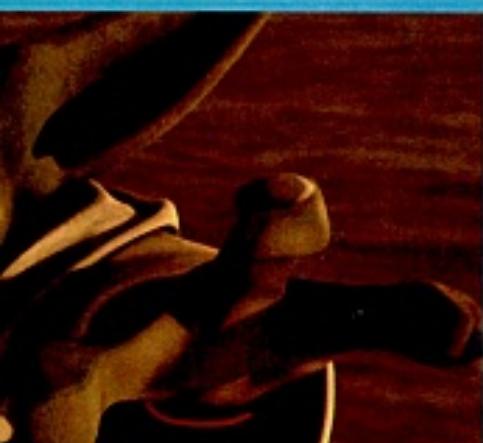
Kane's Yoda voice—confident, resonant, and true to Oz's original vision—is the culmination of a saga that began with Kane's work on the early LucasArts title, *The Dig*. That success led to Kane's entry into the Star Wars universe, where he has provided voices for nearly every videogame the company has ever created. Kane started out playing random stormtroopers and Imperial officers before going on to tackle more familiar characters like Lobot, Admiral Ackbar, C-3PO, Nien Nunb, Bib Fortuna, and even those three characters he used to impersonate during his goof-off breaks: Boba Fett, Grand Moff Tarkin, and Yoda.

Indeed, it was Kane's success in the videogame world that led to the next step, about which he'd always dreamed: animation. That dream has come true many times over, with Kane having voiced unforgettable characters like Professor Utonium and the villainous Him on *The Powerpuff Girls*, Darwin the chimpanzee of *The Wild Thornberrys*, Mr. Herriman on *Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends*, Lord Monkey Fist of *Kim Possible*, and Magneto on *Wolverine and the X-Men*. He also lent his many voices to such 'toons as *Duck Dodgers*, *Shrek the Third*, and late 1990s animated series starring Spider-Man, Iron Man, and the Incredible Hulk—not to mention his continued videogame voice work, which has included Gandalf for *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* and





"They played my Yoda for George and got approval, and suddenly I found myself doing Yoda for videogames, and that led to toys, and commercials."



Commissioner Gordon in the Batman game, *Arkham Asylum*.

PHONING IT IN!

Yet the scope of Kane's work is so wide that all of those famous characters are just a small slice of it.

In fact, if you've turned on your TV or radio today, chances are you've already heard him. Kane works every day—which is virtually unheard of among voice performers—and the vast majority of his work is as an announcer, voicing everything from promotional spots for TV crime dramas to the trailers for *Monsters vs. Aliens*. He's been the official voice of the Academy Awards a few times, and he's done so many commercials and movie trailers, he's lost count. On the day *Star Wars Insider* caught up with him, Kane was between recording sessions, one as an announcer for CBS promos and the other for a character on Adult Swim's *The Boondocks*.

He does it nearly all from a home studio in Kansas City, his hometown that he returned to in 2005 with his wife and six children after 20 years in Los Angeles. Kane is now so in-demand that he can literally "phone it in," recording his voice over a high-bandwidth ISDN line that connects him to the Los Angeles

studios where the directors sit. "I grew up here, and my wife and I met at the University of Kansas," Kane says. "Our families are here on both sides, and we wanted to let the kids get to know their grandparents."

Growing up just outside of Kansas City, where he was born in 1962, Kane never expected to be working on major Hollywood projects, but he did have a talent for mimicry and voices from an early age, a skill he started to develop in the local media.

"My mom tells me that when I was three years of age, my grandfather would be watching the football game and cussing at the television in German, and I would just repeat what Grandpa said. He would laugh and say, 'Ya, the kid's got a pretty good German accent.' I used to embarrass the heck out of my sister in the grocery store, because we'd be in the cereal aisle and I'd go, 'Frosted Flakes, they're grrrrrrreat!' [It should be noted that Kane said that last part in a perfect Tony the Tiger voice.]

Young Tom soon discovered he could do almost any voice he heard—and he loved doing it. By the time he was 15, he was confident enough to start cold-calling local advertisers, offering

his services as an announcer.

"The local commercials were horrendously bad," he recalls, "and I just thought it would be fun to hear myself on TV. It didn't occur to me that anybody got paid for it. Most turned me away, but I got a call back from the American Cancer Society's ad agency. I had called, basically saying, 'Your Public Service Announcement sounds like you put the microphone in front of the receptionist.' I was a teenager and had no tact, but it turns out that's exactly what had happened. They called me up and said, 'We understand you're willing to donate your time.'

"I was 15 years old, but I sounded like an adult on the phone," he continues. "I had to have my dad drive me to the studio, and of course, they walked up to him. He said, 'No,' and pointed at this pimply-faced teenager. The poor producer had to explain to his boss that this 15-year-old kid was the one he hired!"

The producers were even more skeptical when the "pimply teen" offered to read the script, "like the old man from the Pepperidge Farms commercials," he said, but their attitudes changed when the young upstart delivered a perfect, Wilford Brimley-esque performance in one take. "I wasn't trying to show off," he

confesses. "I just thought it would be fun." Three days later, the same ad agency hired him to voice a cowboy in five more TV ads.

"By the time I went to college, I'd done probably a hundred commercials," Kane said, "and by the time I got out of college, I'd done several hundred. But I always wanted to do cartoons, and there's only one place those exist, and that's Los Angeles. So we made our way out there around 1985, and I was tremendously successful in every other aspect of voice-over work very quickly. But I couldn't get arrested when it came to cartoons. I auditioned and auditioned, and I think I was there for six years before I started landing anything. I'd almost given up."

A LIFE CHANGING MOVIE!

It turned out that Kane's break came out of another passion from his formative years in Kansas—his love of Star Wars. "It was the last day of school in the ninth grade when Star Wars came out in 1977," he recalls, "and the world changed for me that day. Within 10 seconds, when that Star Destroyer came overhead, I just sat there with my mouth hanging open, going, 'Whoa!' I think I saw the movie 12 times. I took my mom, and then I took my grandmother. She said, 'Oh honey, I don't watch

"I took my grandmother to see *Star Wars*. She said, 'Oh honey, I don't watch those types of movies,' and I said, 'Grandma, you will love this!'"

FROM ACKBAR TO YULAREN

TOM KANE'S 11 GREATEST STAR WARS VOICES

Admiral Ackbar
(Star Wars: Battlefront)

Bib Fortuna
(Star Wars: Demolition)

Boba Fett
(Star Wars: Demolition, Galactic Battleground and Jedi Knight; Jedi Academy)

Leebo (*Shadows of the Empire*)

Lobot (*Star Wars: Demolition*)

General Madine
(Rogue Squadron series)

Narrator
(Star Wars: The Clone Wars)

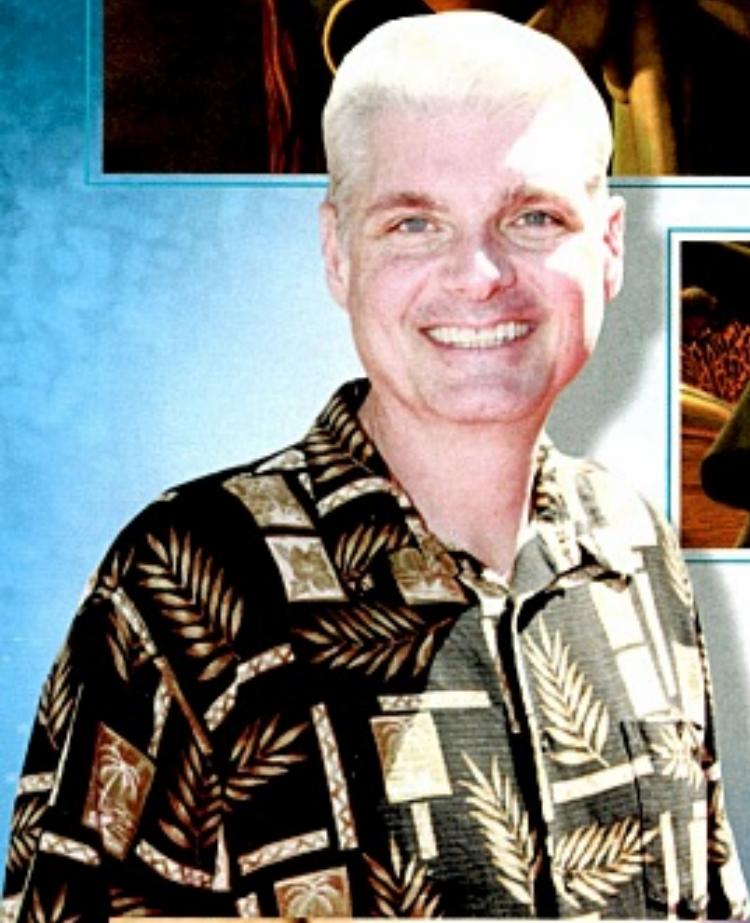
Nien Nunb
(Star Wars: X-Wing Alliance)

Vandar Tokare
(Knights of the Old Republic)

Yoda
(Star Wars: The Clone Wars, the movie and animated series; Star Wars: Clone Wars, the micro-series; and various games and toys)

Wullf Yularen
(Star Wars: The Clone Wars)





those types of movies,' and I said, 'Grandma, you will love this,' and she did. When the other movies came out over the next several years, she went and saw them."

So Kane was thrilled when he finally got a job doing character voices for LucasArts. "Then the first time they hired me to do something for *Star Wars*," he said, "I sat there sort of just shaking my head, because to be a fan and find myself sitting in front of a script with the words *Star Wars* on it, and characters that I knew and loved, and here I am working for a guy that had an office up at Lucasfilm . . . I'm sitting there thinking, 'How did this happen?'"

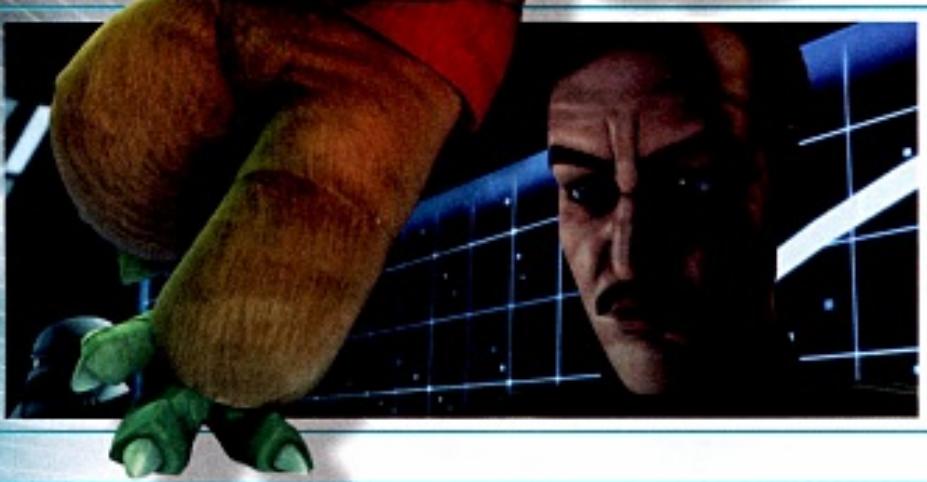
It happened because Kane could seemingly do any voice in the *Star Wars* universe, as he proved over the course of the last dozen years doing voices for videogames, from classic voices heard in the *Star Wars* movies to brand new characters. Some of those new characters were still familiar, posing an even greater challenge. Kane had to come up with the first-ever voice for previously-silent Lando-sidekick Lobot, as well

BEYOND STAR WARS

TOM KANE'S ANIMATION AND VOICE-OVER LEGACY

These are just a few selected characters from Tom Kane's extensive voice-ography:

- H.O.M.E.R., *Iron Man* (1995-96)
Dr. Doom, *Spider-Man* (1997)
Dante, *Team Knight Rider* (1997-98)
Berry, *Johnny Bravo* (1997-2000)
Professor Utonium/Him, *The Powerpuff Girls* (1998-2005)
Darwin, *The Wild Thornberrys* (1998-2002)
Greco, *Heavy Gear: The Animated Series* (2001)
Gandalf, *Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* (videogame) (2002)
Lord Monkey Fist, *Kim Possible* (2002-2007)
Various Characters, *Duck Dodgers* (2003-2005)
Dean Cain, *The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius* (2005)
Ultimos, *Ben 10* (2006)
Guard, *Shrek The Third* (2007)
Mr. Herriman, *Foster's Home for Imaginary Friends* (2004-2008)
Magneto, *Wolverine and the X-Men* (2008-2009)
Commissioner Gordon, *Batman: Arkham Asylum* (videogame) (2009)



as the sound of Vandar Tokare, one of only two other known members of Yoda's species, who soon returns in a new multi-player online game, *Star Wars: The Old Republic*.

"We had to come up with a voice for him," Kane says. "So we ended up basically doing Yoda but then I changed it slightly, and the thing we did to make it completely different is that he doesn't speak in 'Yodese,' he doesn't flop his words."

As time went by, Kane became entrusted with more major roles, such as filling in for Anthony Daniels as C-3PO for some games. "It's his voice," Kane insists. "I'm just caretaking it occasionally when he doesn't want to do the job or isn't available."

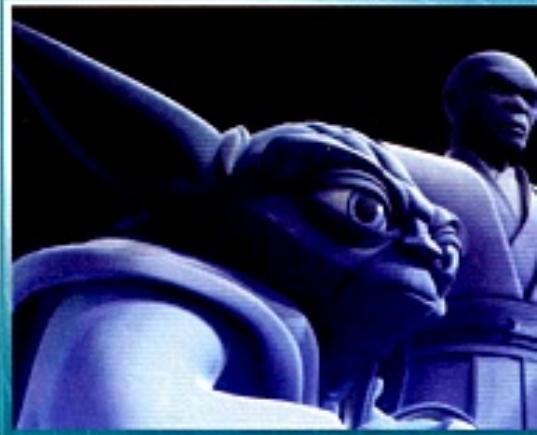
In contrast, Kane has pretty much inherited Yoda from Frank Oz, who originated the part in the *Star Wars* feature films but hasn't performed it since Episode III. Those are not small shoes to fill. Oz, who began his career as a puppeteer with Jim Henson's Muppets, has created and performed the voices for some of the most treasured characters in our culture, including Sesame

Street's Cookie Monster, Grover, and Bert, and *The Muppet Show*'s Miss Piggy, Fozzie Bear, and Animal, among many others. Oz's Yoda captured the world's imagination since his first appearance in *The Empire Strikes Back*; could any actor even come close to that standard?

YODA THE ICON!

Kane admits that even though he had George Lucas' full confidence, the magnitude of the character can be a little intimidating.

"I look at it not just as a cool gig, which it is," he said, "but it is such an honor to be entrusted with something that iconic, with a voice that's known to the world. James Arnold Taylor, who is [the voice of] Obi-Wan, is now Fred Flintstone, and something we talk about is how honored we are to be caretaking these characters and their voices. It's not something we created, so even though it may become ours, it's on loan. I may be Yoda for another couple years or another 20 years, it's up to George, but for as long as it lasts, I'm just trying to do it the justice that it warrants and





FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Matt Lanter, Catherine Taber, James Arnold Taylor, Grey DeLisle, Tom Kane, George Lucas, Kevin Kiner, Ashley Eckstein, David Accord, Ian Abercrombie, Matthew Wood, Dee Bradley Baker

"I would love to do Darth Vader, but he's so hard to do!"



hope everyone's happy with it."

So far, so good. Kane not only continues to play Yoda, but is expanding his *Star Wars* repertoire with still more characters. In *Star Wars: The Clone Wars*, Kane also voices Admiral Wullf Yularen and provides the opening narration at the start of each episode.

Still, there is one *Star Wars* character Kane has said he could never play.

"I would love to do Darth Vader, but he's so hard to do," the actor admits. "There is a quality to James Earl Jones' voice that is just impossible to duplicate. My Vader is OK for a line or two, but it's not going to fly for any length of time."

YODA IS NUMBER ONE!

No worries, since there's no shortage of work for Tom Kane, both inside and out of the *Star Wars* universe. "I like Professor Utonium," he says of his *Powerpuff Girls* alter ego. "He's

one of the favorite characters that I've done because he's a dad and I'm a dad, so I got to put a bit of myself into that role. I think cartoons are always going to be nearest and dearest to my heart, because they're fun to do, and they mean something to my kids."

Still, Kane makes it clear that, "Yoda has to be number one. Anytime it's a character who was important in the films, that would just add a little extra weight to me emotionally, because as soon as I hear the words and hear the voice—even if it's me doing it—it brings back the joy at seeing the movies."

Perhaps one day, some voice-over actor of the future will be taking over the role of Professor Utonium, or Darwin, or even Yoda—and when that day comes, we will all be wondering and hoping: Can this guy really do justice to the voice mastery of the one and only Tom Kane? ♦



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- STEVE SANSWEET



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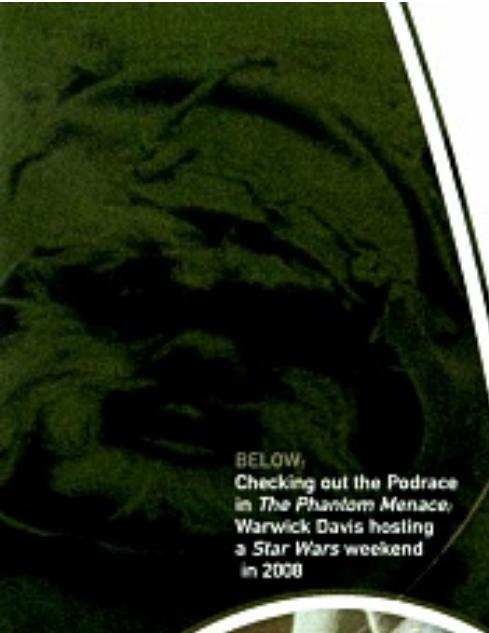


01.07.1997 WICKET'S WORLD



WARWICK DAVIS BECAME A PIVOTAL PART OF THE STAR WARS GALAXY THANKS TO HIS PART AS WICKET THE EWOK IN RETURN OF THE JEDI. BUT APPEARING IN THE FINAL MOVIE CHAPTER IN THE STAR WARS SAGA WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING!

WORDS: CALUM WADDELL



BELOW:
Checking out the Podrace
in *The Phantom Menace*,
Warwick Davis hosting
a Star Wars weekend
in 2008

Star Wars Insider: Starting out your acting career in a major movie such as *Return of the Jedi* would be considered quite intimidating to some people. Indeed, the big question was, "How do I top this?"

Warwick Davis: Yes, I know. I was already at the top of the ladder when I began! It is a tough place to be when you're just starting out, but I have not fallen too far down thankfully. Many actors would love to be in a *Star Wars* movie and I managed to sneak in a few other franchises along the way, such as *Leprechaun* and *Harry Potter*. I have nothing to complain about, and *Star Wars* is such a wonderful thing to have been a part of. When you mention it, everyone has seen it, and that gives you some credibility.

Is it true you got the part of Wicket after your grandmother heard a commercial about the casting on the radio?

Yes, she heard a radio spot and told my mum about it. She then phoned the studios and they invited me up to see them. Basically, I met up with the production assistant and then I was sent down to the wardrobe department. I didn't have to audition actually—it was as simple as that. So I owe all of this to my grandmother really, my whole career, and the fact that

I am speaking about it now. To be a part of any film would have been great, of course, but to act in a *Star Wars* movie—which was a big part of my life anyway, being a kid and a major fan—was a huge, huge thrill! It was the best thing that happened to me.

What was it like for you, as a child actor, to walk onto the set of *Return of the Jedi* and see so many icons?

I was in an amazing position. I was just 11-years-old when we began *Return of the Jedi* and I was welcomed onto the set with open arms. I was one of the youngest performers in the trilogy and I think that, being a child and being so full of energy, was actually quite refreshing for them. Carrie Fisher took me under her wing right away. She was quite concerned for me because I was in a hot Ewok suit. She always had milk and cookies for me whenever I took the head off! Mark Hamill was a really nice chap. He bought me all the toys I wanted! I remember he asked me to make a list of all the *Star Wars* things I didn't have and the next day he came in with all of this stuff! I never expected that and it was very flattering. Harrison Ford was exactly as you would imagine: a real gentleman. These people were my heroes. I found it hard to see them as actors. To me they were their characters and I was in awe.

"STAR WARS WAS THE BEST THING THAT HAD EVER HAPPENED TO ME."

What was the Wicket costume like? It was just a head really; it took about two seconds to put on and that was it. It was totally inanimate. The good thing about the Wicket head was that I could get my tongue through. The tongue that you see in the movie is mine! They liked that because they could put little bits of dialogue in and it gave the face a little bit of animation.

Were you surprised when there were the two Ewok television movies: *Caravan of Courage* and *The Battle for Endor*?

I was only surprised from the point of view that it was another acting job for me. I never knew there would be more! When you think about it, it was a sensible thing to do—the Ewoks were popular, they had a market and George Lucas figured there were more stories to tell. The result was two very nice films.





ABOVE: Scout
troopers beware!
Leia and Wicket
are ready to
kick butt!

Do you ever come across the *Star Wars* fans that absolutely despise the Ewoks? Oh, I meet them all the time! If I'm doing an on-stage presentation I always try and find out who the Ewok haters are in the building. They are the ones who play *Star Wars Battlefront* as stormtroopers and deliberately shoot Ewoks! I was a bit disappointed that, even in the trailer for the videogame, that was one of the things they showed you could do! However, joking aside, I can see the point of view from both sides. The people who do not like the Ewoks think they are too cute and that they were put in *Return of the Jedi* purely to sell merchandise.



RIGHT: Anakin's pal, Wald—ready to play!

On the other side of the coin, they showed how a short, very primitive species could go up against the technologically advanced Empire and win because what they believed in was so great. I'm sure that was what George Lucas had in mind. Their passion and their belief in the cause was what allowed them to overcome this tremendous evil; the Empire was far too complacent.

Since *Return of the Jedi*, Jar Jar Binks has replaced the Ewoks as a focus of controversy for some *Star Wars* fans. Well my little girl, Annabelle, loved Jar Jar Binks! She was about three or four when *The Phantom Menace* came out and she adored the character. We had every piece of memorabilia with Jar Jar on it and if she loves him then he is fine by me!

Having worked with George Lucas on so many movies—do you ever try and twist his arm to cast you whenever he has a new project in development? Well, George is a great guy and, obviously, I consider him to be an integral part of my career to date. He has given me a lot of opportunities and I hope I have grasped every one and made the most of them. I am certainly very appreciative and, although I don't think he feels obliged to cast me in things, I certainly drop enough hints!

You made a small appearance in *The Phantom Menace*, as one of the onlookers during the Podrace. What was the atmosphere like on the set? Well I was just getting on with the job, but George seemed to be enjoying

"GEORGE IS A GREAT GUY AND, OBVIOUSLY, I CONSIDER HIM TO BE AN INTEGRAL PART OF MY CAREER TO DATE."

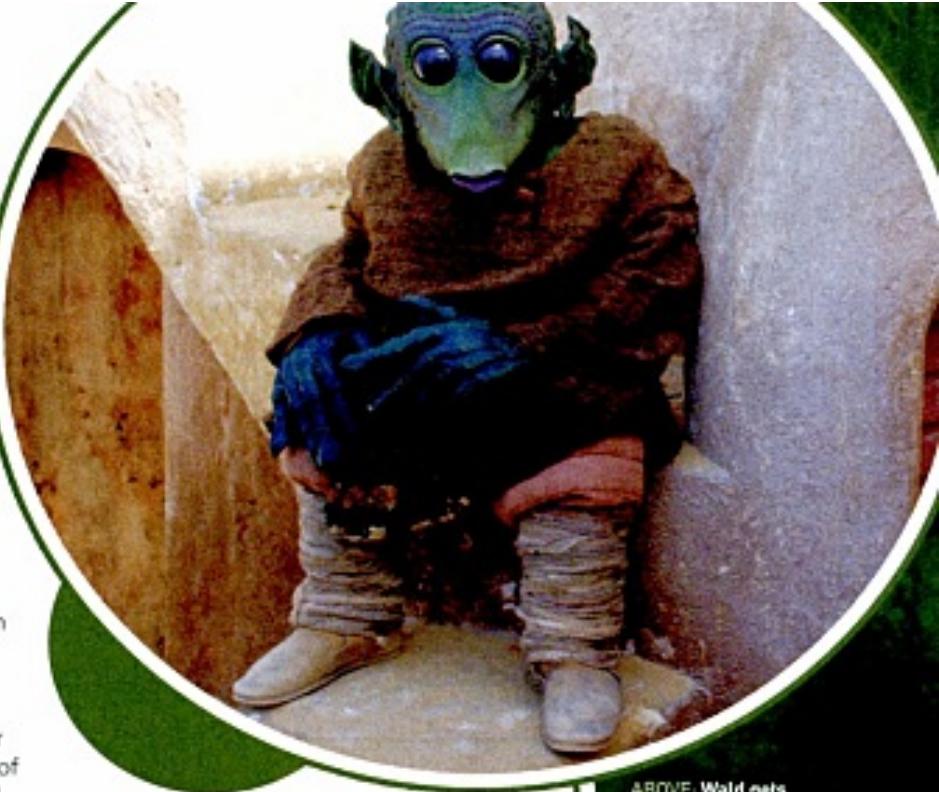
ABOVE: Who's this Solo guy? Love at first sight between the Princess and a furball!

BETWEEN: Where's the sea? Warwick Davies chats with Rick McCallum in Tunisia for Episode I.



directing. I think he liked the hands-on aspect of it. I think that George feels most comfortable in post-production and working with all of the special effects. He loves to edit movies. You can make or break a movie in the editing room.

You recently appeared in the *Bring Back Star Wars* television special in the U.K. Oh, that was crazy! How many people have seen that? The show must have swept up in the ratings because if I am not talking about *Return of the Jedi* and *Willow* it's *Bring Back Star Wars!* I was very surprised by it. My wife knew that Justin Lee Collins [the show's host] was going to come to the house, but I had no idea. I was working on something else and it was a shock when he turned up. I'm a fan of the *Bring Back* series, so I knew what was going on although I had no idea that he was going to interview me in my hot tub for an hour and a half! We were poached by the end of it—it was ridiculous. Just to set the record straight—there was no nudity; I was wearing Speedos and Justin was wearing his underpants. It was all good! It goes to show you just what a phenomenon *Star Wars* is. People still feel so passionately about the films. Whenever I do a survey with a live audience you find the older fans prefer the classic trilogy and the younger kids grew up with the prequels. There is this whole old fan/new fan divide these days.



Can you talk about some of the Ewok merchandise that you have come across? I have seen all sorts of merchandise—very interesting stuff like soap and underwear with Ewoks on it. That was quite bizarre! My favorite thing is a large Wicket cookie jar, which is basically a bust of my head. I have also got a lot of action figures at home.

"CARRIE FISHER ALWAYS HAD MILK AND COOKIES FOR ME WHENEVER I TOOK THE HEAD OFF!"

Do you have any news as to whether you are going to be featured in the upcoming *Star Wars* television series? There is no news on that yet, but I have been dropping hints all over the place! I think it would be nice to the *Star Wars* fans if they could involve some people from the original movies. Not as Wicket, I would not hope to come back as someone I have already played, but maybe as a bad guy. I have never been a *Star Wars* villain and I would love to play a bounty hunter who eventually meets his doom at the hands of one of the heroes. So something like that would be great! ☺



ABOVE: Yub Nub! Wicket: a legend among Ewoks!

EXPANDED UNIVERSE >>>

Check out www.warwickdavis.co.uk for the latest Warwick Davis news!

WARRIORS OF ENDOR

CUTE, CUDDLY, AND HIGHLY DANGEROUS WHEN CROSSED, THE EWOKS PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN BRINGING DOWN THE EMPIRE. HOWEVER, THEIR BRAVERY DIDN'T END THERE. ALLY WYBREW RECOUNTS THE LIVES OF FIVE OF ENDOR'S FINEST FURBALLS.

WICKET

HEROIC MOMENTS

The most famous Ewok, Wicket Wystri Warrick, played an instrumental role in the battle against the Galactic Empire, thereby adding to the storied history of his tribe's home, Bright Tree Village. His quick thinking and bold actions saved Princess Leia Organa when scout troopers captured her on the Forest Moon of Endor. Wicket also played a crucial role in rescuing Jeremill and Catarine Towani after a monstrous Gorax kidnapped them. A tough little warrior, he delivered the killing blow to the cruel King Terak of the Sanyassan Marauders who had enslaved Wicket's friends.

WEAPONS/GADGETS

Ewoks' weapons were primitive but effective. Wicket's favorite was his trusty spear, which doubled as a walking stick. Not always as adept with weapons as other Ewoks, his amateur use of a sling was in evidence during the tense Battle of Endor.

TRIVIA

Wicket tried his hand as a pupil of the medicine man Logray. Sadly, he lacked

the patience and skill necessary to become a shaman.

ALLIES

Wicket made a number of allies through his friendship with Princess Leia. By helping her on Endor, Han Solo, Luke Skywalker, R2-D2 and C-3PO became honorary "members" of the Bright Tree Village tribe.

ENEMIES

Morag the Tulgah witch was a fearsome enemy of the Ewoks for over 200 years. Her attempts to destroy Bright Tree Village led her to use beings such as the Phleggs and the Duloks to aid her evil cause. Wicket and his friends helped prevent her from succeeding, until the Ewok shaman Logray finally froze her into stone.



Wicket

PAPLOO

HEROIC MOMENTS

Paploo risked his life when he helped the Rebels gain entry to the Imperial control bunker by distracting the guards, stealing a speeder bike, and leading them deep into the forest. Hanging on for all he was worth, he finally swung up into the trees to safety.

WEAPONS/GADGETS

One of the most effective weapons used against the Ewok's larger enemies was the *tek swee*, literally, "head hitter." Put to use against the Imperial AT-STs during

the Battle of Endor, this destructive weapon used logs suspended high up in the trees. Released at just the right moment, they smashed through whatever got in their way!

TRIVIA

The nephew of Chief Chirpa and one of Wicket's closest friends, Paploo was one of Logray's apprentices. He was appointed medicine man of Bright Tree Village following Logray's exile and his placing of a curse on the village.



ALLIES

Among the many allies of the Ewoks were the wisties—otherwise known as the "firefolk." Extremely small—in fact, no larger than an Ewok's hand—these creatures helped protect Bright Tree Village from destruction when Morag tried to burn it down.

ENEMIES

Condor dragons were large, flying reptilians (creatures who resemble both reptiles and avian beings) whose carnivorous habits led them to hunt small creatures. They had been known to seize Ewoks from the backs of their ponies, although thankfully this wasn't a common occurrence.

CHUKHA-TROK

HEROIC MOMENTS

Chukha-Trok was a valiant woodsman who eagerly joined Deej Warrick on the expedition to rescue the Towani family. He charged after Cindel when her flighty horse whisked her off into the woods, and he gave his life battling a Gorax to save the strangers' lives.

WEAPONS/GADGETS

As a woodsman, Chukha-Trok's primary weapon was his stone ax, expertly wielded during his battle with a Gorax. As a gesture of honor and respect, he bestowed this icon of Ewok bravery on Mace Towani just before he died.

TRIVIA

Chukha-Trok wore an ivory tooth around

his neck that originated from the jawbone of an unknown creature, given by Logray as a sacred token to help him on the rescue expedition.

ALLIES

Cindel Towani was one of the most pivotal humans who interacted with the Ewoks. During Cindel's time on Endor, the tribe banded together to help find and save her parents.

ENEMIES

The Gorax were among the most threatening of all the Ewoks' enemies on the Endor moon. These sentient omnivores stood at least six meters high and often raided villages to capture Ewoks as pets or to devour them!



LOGRAY

HEROIC MOMENTS

Logray played a prominent role in Ewok culture as the shaman and medicine man of Bright Tree Village. He fended off the vile witch Morag on numerous occasions. But he later was exposed as a bully and banished from the village.

WEAPONS/GADGETS

Logray's most powerful weapon was his "magic." Having been a slave to the evil Morag in his youth, Logray was able to learn her secrets.

becoming a strong magic user in the process. These skills helped Chief Chirpa protect Bright Tree Village and its inhabitants.

TRIVIA

The skull Logray is seen wearing on his head is that of a churi, a bird native to Endor. He also had a churi skull fixed to the roof of his hut.

ALLIES

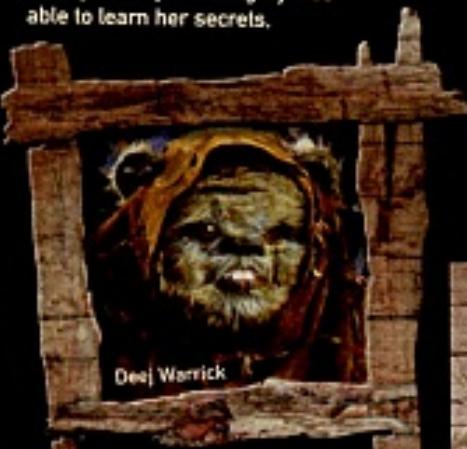
Logray had many apprentices over the course of his life. The first was named Zarrik. Sadly, he turned to the dark arts, and was later expelled from the village. His greatest student was Teebo.



Logray

ENEMIES

A group of Sanyassan Marauders from the planet Sanyassa crashed on Endor's moon around 100 years before the battle of Yavin and set up a base. Fearsome space pirates, they frequently raided settlements and captured and killed many Ewoks.



Deej Warrick

DEEJ WARRICK

HEROIC MOMENTS

It takes a brave soul to lead his son and friends into certain danger—and that's exactly what Deej Warrick (Wicket's father) did when he went after a Gorax. Venturing into a place from which no Ewok had returned, Deej risked his life to rescue Cindel Towani's parents and proved that Ewoks are braver than their small stature might indicate.

WEAPONS/GADGETS

Deej was known for his proficient use of the hang-glider, a simple but effective construction made of soft wood and animal skin. The contraption was later employed by Wicket, who used it to pursue Cindel Towani when she was whisked away by a condor dragon.

TRIVIA

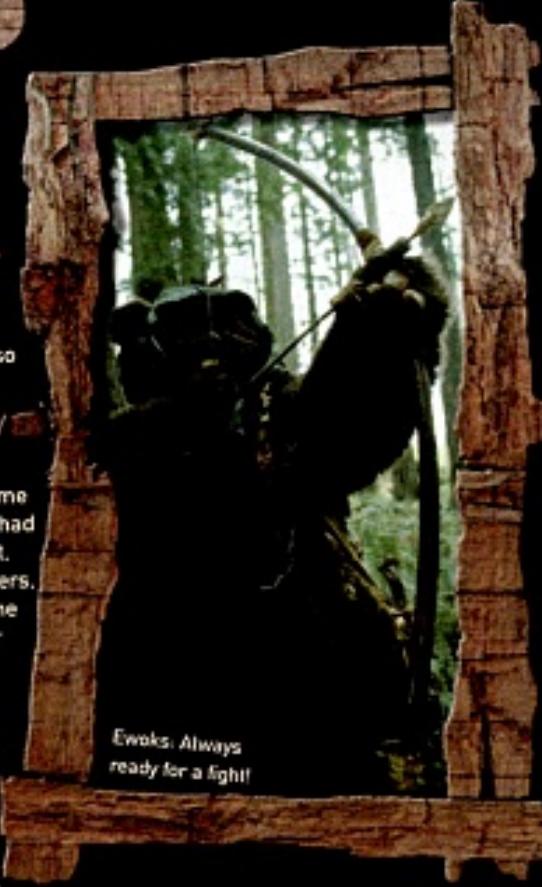
Deej had three sons: Weechee, Widdle (also known as Willy) and Wicket. He also had a daughter, Winda.

ALLIES

Noa Briqualon was a scout who had become stranded on Endor early in his career. He had been travelling with his friend, Salek Weet, who was killed by the Sanyassan Marauders, an old enemy of the Ewoks. Noa helped the Ewoks fight the Marauders, ridding Endor of this terrifying foe.

ENEMIES

Standing over three meters tall and baring two great tusks, boar-wolves (or "borra") were a huge threat to the Ewoks. Deej and his sons fought valiantly against one borra attacking Cindel and Mace Towani before Wicket felled it with a poisoned dart.



Ewoks: Always ready for a fight!

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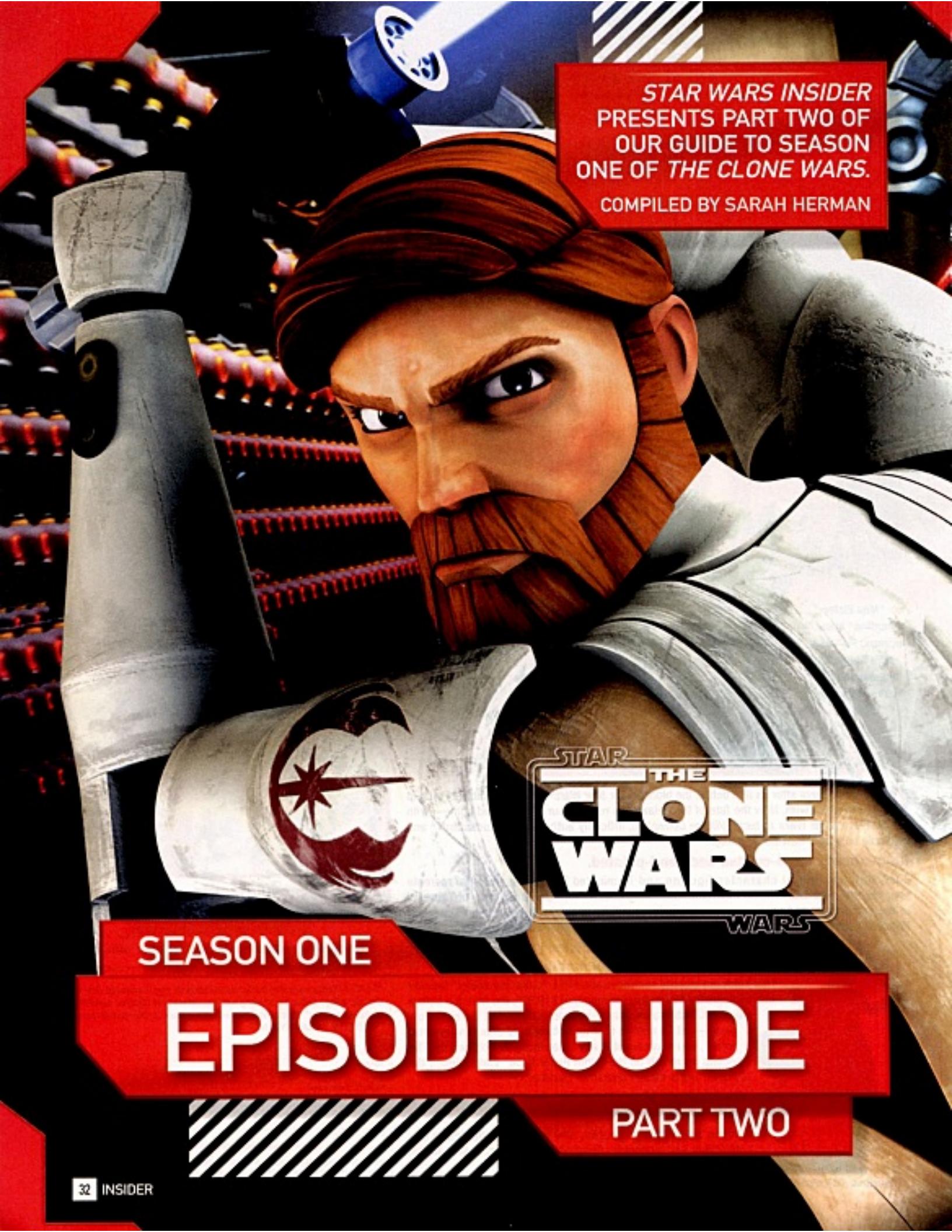
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STAR WARS INSIDER
PRESENTS PART TWO OF
OUR GUIDE TO SEASON
ONE OF *THE CLONE WARS*.

COMPILED BY SARAH HERMAN

SEASON ONE

EPISODE GUIDE

PART TWO



1.11

"DOOKU CAPTURED"



WRITTEN BY JULIE SIEGE • DIRECTED BY JESSE YEH

MISSION BRIEF

Anakin Skywalker has allowed himself to be kidnapped to get close to Count Dooku. When Obi-Wan Kenobi joins him on the Separatist cruiser where he's being held, they accidentally let the Count slip through their fingers. After chasing him to Vanqor he escapes again, this time with a band of pirates who imprison Dooku on Florrum. The Republic is forced to cut a deal with the Florrum pirates and send Obi-Wan and Anakin to make the trade, but can the brigands be trusted?

OBI-WAN KENOBI:
Anakin, when I tell
you to run, run!

OBI-WAN KENOBI:
Look how the mighty
Sith Lord has fallen.

CLONE CHATTER

COUNT DOOKU:
I am more
powerful than
any Jedi.



SEPARATIST SPEAK

INSIDER INFO

In the original "Dooku Captured" script, the ship that Anakin and Obi-Wan discover in the hangar bay was a Sabaoth starfighter as seen in the 2002 *Star Wars: Jedi Starfighter* videogame.

STAR WARRIORS



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



OBI-WAN KENOBI



COUNT DOOKU



AHSOKA TANO



TURK FALSEO



PIRATE CHIEF
HONDO OHNAKA

"THE GUNGAN GENERAL"

WRITTEN BY JULIE SIEGE • DIRECTED BY JUSTIN RIDGE

**SEPARATIST SPEAK****COUNT DOOKU:**

(To Obi-Wan and Anakin) I would kill you both right now, if I did not have to drag your bodies.

COUNT DOOKU:

(To Obi-Wan and Anakin) My capture was due to uncontrollable circumstances. Yours was sheer stupidity.

STAR WARRIORS

ANAKIN SKYWALKER



OBI-WAN KENOBI



COUNT DOOKU



HONDO OHNAKA



TURK FALSEO



SENATOR KHARRUS



JAR JAR BINKS

CLONE CHATTER**ANAKIN SKYWALKER:**
Don't you think our priorities should be: escape first, eat second?**JAR JAR BINKS:**
Meesa be havin' an idea.**INSIDER INFO**The top of the Senator Kharrus' staff closely resembles the headpiece from the Staff of Ra from Lucasfilm's *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.**"JEDI CRASH"**

WRITTEN BY KATIE LUCAS • DIRECTED BY ROB COLEMAN

**SEPARATIST SPEAK****DROID CAPTAIN:**
Destroy that cruiser.**DROID:**
But sir, there are still hundreds of droids on board.**DROID CAPTAIN:**
I don't care.**CLONE CHATTER****ADMIRAL YULAREN:**
Are all Jedi so reckless?**AAYLA SECURA:**
Just the good ones.**STAR WARRIOR**

AHSOKA TANO



AAYLA SECURA



TEE WATT KAA



CMDR. BLY



CAPTAIN REX



WAG TOO

INSIDER INFOAayla Secura never names her Master, but she's referring to Quinlan Vos, who appears to abandon the Jedi path when he goes on an undercover mission for the Republic. He was featured in the comic series *Star Wars: Republic*.

"DEFENDERS OF PEACE"

WRITTEN BY BILL CANTERBURY • DIRECTED BY STEWARD LEE

MISSION BRIEF

After being treated by the peaceful Lurmen colonists on the remote planet of Maridun, Anakin needs rest. Unfortunately the Separatists have other ideas and show up to raid the village in search of the Jedi. Refusing to get involved, the Lurmen chief stands by while his home is destroyed. Meanwhile, the Jedi search for a ship to get them off the planet.

CMDR. BLY

AAYLA SECURA

SEPARATIST SPEAK

GENERAL LOK DURD:

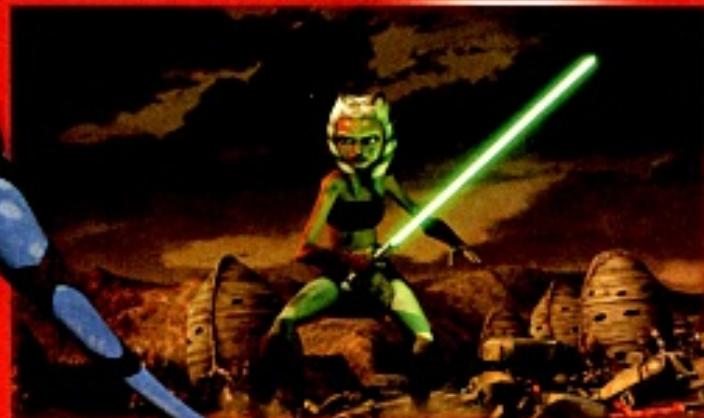
[To the Lurmen] You are now under the protection of the Separatist Alliance. I congratulate you on your good fortune.

GENERAL LOK DURD:

Help! I'll be defoliated!

INSIDER INFO

George Takei—Sulu from *Star Trek*—leant his vocal talents to General Lok Durd. His appearance marks the first time any big-name *Star Trek* actors have crossed over to *Star Wars*.



CLONE CHATTER

ANAKIN SKYWALKER:

[To Ahsoka] There's a difference between pulling innocents into a war, and leaving them to extinction.

AAYLA SECURA:

[To Ahsoka] Don't underestimate their resolve. A strong belief can be more powerful than any army.

STAR WARRIORS



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



AHSOKA TANO



TEE WATT KAA



AAYLA SECURA



CAPTAIN REX



CMDR. BLY

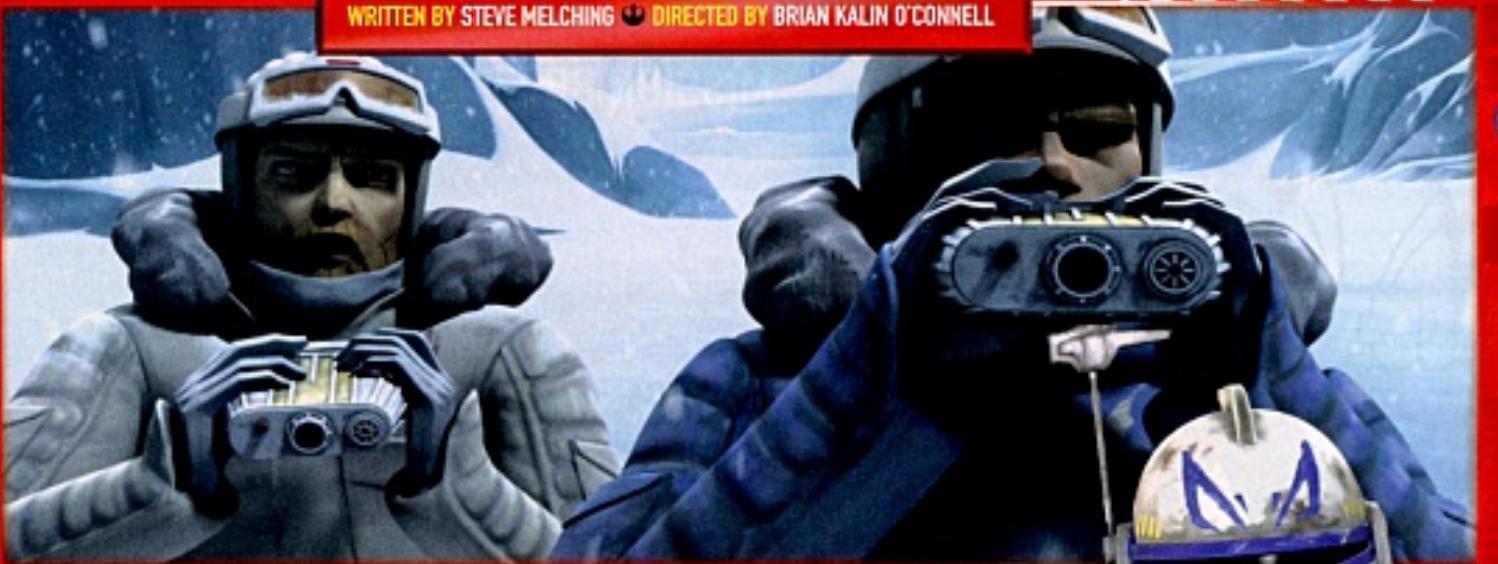


GENERAL LOK DURD

1.15

"TRESPASS"

WRITTEN BY STEVE MELCHING • DIRECTED BY BRIAN KALIN O'CONNELL



MISSION BRIEF

Anakin and Obi-Wan accompany a group of visiting dignitaries from the ruling moon of Pantora to the icy planet Orto Plutonia. Believing the planet to be uninhabited, things turn frosty when the clone security force goes missing. A conflict escalates between the Pantorans and the newly discovered furry locals, the Talz.

CLONE CHATTER

C-3PO:

Might we go inside, Master Anakin? Artoo would like to get out of the cold.

SENATOR RIYO CHUCHI:

[To Thi-Sen] To die for one's people is a great sacrifice. To live for one's people... an even greater sacrifice. I choose to live for my people. What do you choose?

INSIDER INFO

The totem poles we see in the Talz village are made from ice. The huts they reside in are built from bones, with animal skins stretched over the frames.

STAR WARRIORS



CHIEFTAIN THI-SEN



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



OBI-WAN KENOBI



SEN. RIYO CHUCHI



CHAIRMAN CHI CHO



CAPTAIN REX



C-3PO

CAPTAIN REX

1.16

'THE HIDDEN ENEMY'

WRITTEN BY DREW Z. GREENBERG • DIRECTED BY STEWARD LEE

MISSION BRIEF

Brutal and evil, the Separatist force descends on the peaceful world of Christophis. Under attack and out of their depth, the planet's people turn to the Jedi for help. Obi-Wan and Anakin Skywalker prepare for a daring ambush, which they believe could turn the tide, giving them the edge in the fight for this star system. But first, they must deal with a traitor amongst the clones!

ASAJJ VENTRESS

OBI-WAN KENOBI



STAR WARRIORS



R2-D2



OBI-WAN KENOBI



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



CMDR. CODY



CAPTAIN REX



ASAJJ VENTRESS

SEPARATIST SPEAK

ASAJJ VENTRESS:
Poor Obi-Wan. You've been betrayed. And now we're about to take control of this world.

ASAJJ VENTRESS:
(To Anakin and Obi-Wan) So hard to know whom to trust these days, isn't it?

CLONE CHATTER

COMMANDER CODY:
(To clone trooper, Slick) If you loved your brothers you wouldn't have put them at risk. You betrayed every one of us.

CAPTAIN REX:
(To the clone troopers) Way I figure it, you tell the truth, you got nothing to be nervous about.

INSIDER INFO

In the first chase sequence, inside the Republic base, it sounds like Cody orders Rex to take the "left" corridor, but Rex turns right. What he actually says is, "You take the west corridor."



EPISODE GUIDE

1.17

1.18

"BLUE SHADOW VIRUS"

WRITTEN BY CRAIG TITLEY • DIRECTED BY GIANCARLO VOLPE



CLONE CHATTER

JAR JAR BINKS:

[To Dr. Nuvo Vindi] Yousa no creatin life. Yousa taken life. Yousa poison the Gungans.

OBI-WAN KENOBI:

If those bombs get delivered, we'll be facing a galaxy-wide plague. The war will be the least of our worries.

SEPARATIST SPEAK

DR. NUVO VINDI:

As we speak, thousands and thousands of so-called "superior" life forms are spreading their disease of war throughout the galaxy! Perhaps they are the ones who should be eradicated?

MISSION BRIEF

There's no stopping the Separatist rebellion as it tears through the galaxy leaving chaos in its wake. Even the serene planet of Naboo is under threat. Upon hearing the news that Separatist droids are patrolling their homeland, Padmé and Jar Jar head for Naboo. They are captured while hunting for a secret bio-weapons lab, which Separatist forces are planning to use to release a deadly virus. Will Anakin, Obi-Wan, and Ahsoka find them in time?

STAR WARRIORS



PADMÉ AMIDALA



JAR JAR BINKS



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



QUEEN NEE-YUTNEE



AHSOKA TANO



OBI-WAN KENOBI



DR. NUVO VINDI



CAPTAIN TYPHO

INSIDER INFO

The hallway Luke Skywalker explores on Cloud City in *The Empire Strikes Back* inspired the design of the brightly lit underground laboratory hallways. The show's crew nicknamed them "disco hallways."

"MYSTERY OF A THOUSAND MOONS"

WRITTEN BY BRIAN LARSEN • DIRECTED BY JESSE YEH



MISSION BRIEF

After capturing evil scientist Dr. Nuvo Vindi, Anakin and Obi-Wan seem to have saved the day and stopped the deadly Blue Shadow virus from wreaking havoc on Naboo and all the other important Republic systems. But that's only until a lone droid blows up one of the vials, releasing the virus in the lab and putting Padmé and Ahsoka at risk. Anakin and Obi-Wan must travel deep into Separatist territory to lego to find a cure, but will it be too late?

INSIDER INFO

The sprawling city of Cliffhold was based on old concept art for *The Phantom Menace* by design director Doug Chiang.



STAR WARRIORS



PADMÉ AMIDALA



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



AHSOKA TANO



OBI-WAN KENOBI



DR. NUVO VINDI



JAYBO HOOD

1.19

"STORM OVER RYLOTH"

WRITTEN BY GEORGE KRSTIC • DIRECTED BY BRIAN KALIN O'CONNELL

**SEPARATIST SPEAK****MAR TUUK:**

I am certain this Skywalker will return. His ultimate defeat shall be my greatest victory.

WAT TAMBOR:

You admire this Skywalker?

MAR TUUK:

As a general, yes. His record shows he is a great warrior, and I want him to know it is I who has beaten him.

ADMIRAL YULAREN:

Did you train her not to follow orders?

AHSOKA TANO:

We're not retreating. We're following orders.

KIT FISTO

MISSION BRIEF

Planet Ryloth has been invaded and the Twi'lek people are being subjected to a brutal droid occupation, patrolled from the sky by a Trade Federation fleet. Commanding a squadron for the first time, Ahsoka engages the blockade, but gets caught in a trap. Her refusal to obey orders from Admiral Yularen and Anakin and retreat immediately results in the annihilation of almost all of her team. Ashamed, she must learn how to lead and how to obey, as she and Anakin work together to free Ryloth.

CLONE CHATTER**STAR WARRIORS**

ANAKIN SKYWALKER



MAR TUUK



WAT TAMBOR



ADMIRAL YULAREN



CAPTAIN REX



AHSOKA TANO

INSIDER INFO

R2-KT can be spotted in the *Resolute's* hangar bay. R2-KT was named after Katie Johnson, a brave six-year-old who died of brain cancer; her sister wanted a pink R2-D2 (Katie's favorite color) to watch over her.

"INNOCENTS OF RYLOTH"

WRITTEN BY HENRY GILROY • DIRECTED BY JUSTIN RIDGE

**CLONE CHATTER**

OBI-WAN KENOBI:
We need to remember why we're here. We came to aid the Twi'leks, not destroy their home.

MISSION BRIEF

After defeating the space blockade guarding Ryloth and imprisoning its people, Jedi Generals Mace Windu and Obi-Wan Kenobi land in Nabat and lead a ground assault to free the Twi'leks living there. Using the Twi'lek people as living shields to protect the Separatist weapons, Wat Tambor believes a ground assault won't be risked by the Republic; however, he underestimates the skill and determination of the Jedi!

STAR WARRIORS

MACE WINDU



CMDR. CODY



WEXAR



WAT TAMBOR



ORN FREE TAA



COMMANDER TX-20



NUMA

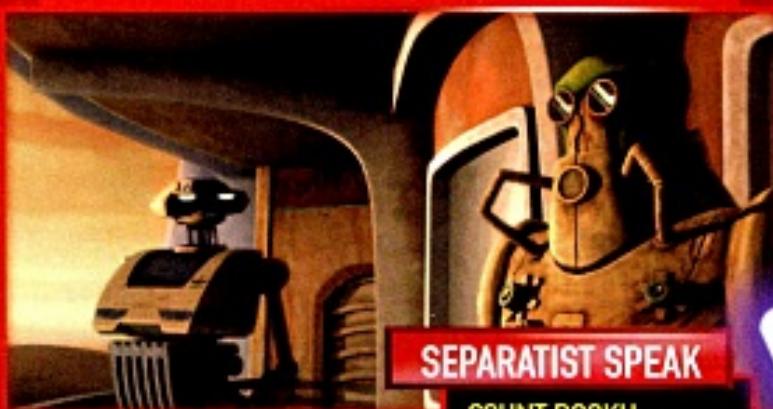
OBI-WAN KENOBI

INSIDER INFO

Keep your eyes locked on the display screens at the Separatist command center. At one point one of them reads "COMIC RELIEF" in Aurebesh letters.

"LIBERTY ON RYLOTH"

WRITTEN BY HENRY GILROY • DIRECTED BY ROB COLEMAN

**SEPARATIST SPEAK**

COUNT DOOKU:
[To Wat Tambor] You are no match for Master Windu. Do not get greedy. Emir Tambor. Take what valuables you can and destroy everything else.

CLONE CHATTER

ORN FREE TAA:
[To Mace Windu]
Cham Syndulla can't be trusted. We were political rivals.

MACE WINDU:
I'll leave the politics to you, Senator. I'm doing whatever I can to help these people.

MISSION BRIEF

While Anakin Skywalker holds the Republic position in the skies above Ryloth, Mace Windu and Obi-Wan Kenobi seize control from the droid troops on the ground, village by village. With the south successfully freed by Obi-Wan, Mace must turn to Twi'lek freedom fighter Cham Syndulla for help to take the capital of Lessu—the likely location for Wat Tambor's command center. But with defeat looking likely, Count Dooku orders Tambor to steal what he can, retreat, and destroy everything in his wake!



COUNT DOOKU

STAR WARRIORS

MACE WINDU



ORN FREE TAA



WAT TAMBOR



CHAM SYNDULLA

INSIDER INFO

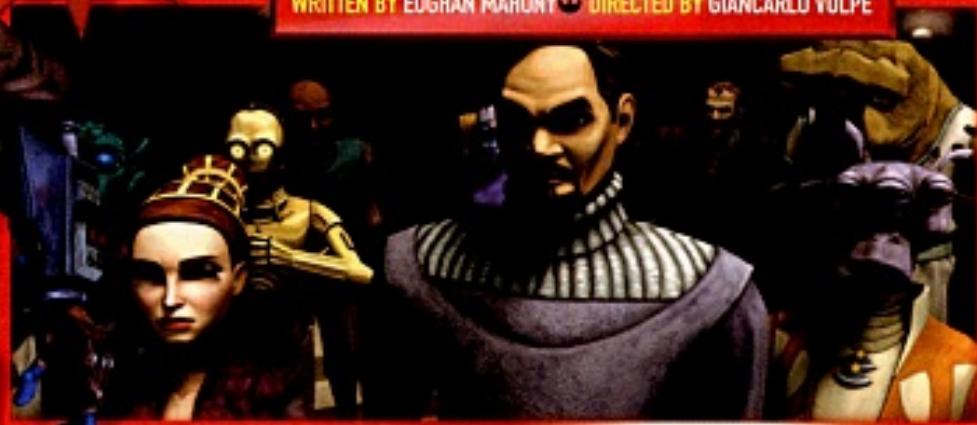
When Wat Tambor is making the most of his treasure raid on Ryloth, one of the prized objects he steals resembles the Ark of the Covenant (modified with Twi'lek cherubim on the box's lid).

1.22

SEASON FINALE!

"HOSTAGE CRISIS"

WRITTEN BY EDGHAN MAHONY • DIRECTED BY GIANCARLO VOLPE



CAD BANE

MACE WINDU

MISSION BRIEF

Despite recent successes in the Outer Rim, the Republic heart is struck hard when bounty hunter Cad Bane and his posse land on Coruscant and head straight for the Senate building. Taking Senators hostage, and trapping everyone else inside, Bane aims to negotiate the release of Ziro the Hutt from the Republic's detention center in exchange for the safety of his prisoners. But Anakin Skywalker is also in the building, visiting his wife Padmé Amidala, who is taken hostage. Palpatine tells him he must save the day, but that'd be a lot easier if he had his lightsaber. If only he hadn't left it with Padmé!

INSIDER INFO

In an earlier version of the script for this episode, Mace Amedda was trapped in the office with Chancellor Palpatine instead of Orn Free Taa. This change was undertaken to re-use Taa's pre-existing character model.

SEPARATIST SPEAK

CAD BANE:
[To Senate Guard Captain] Son, I wouldn't be so hasty if I were you.

CAD BANE:
[To Chancellor Palpatine] I'm in control. I make the rules now.

CLONE CHATTER

PADMÉ AMIDALA:
[Holding Anakin's lightsaber] Wow. It's heavier than I thought.

STAR WARRIORS



ZIRO THE HUTT



CAD BANE



MURRA SING



ROBOHIND



SHAHAR ALAMA



PALPATINE



ANAKIN SKYWALKER



PADMÉ AMIDALA



MEET THE MAKERS!

FUSING STAR WARS STYLE WITH FLASH-DRIVE FUNCTIONALITY, BOSTON-BASED DESIGN HOUSE MIMOCO BRINGS ARTISTIC FLARE TO CONSUMER ELECTRONICS.

WORDS: CHRIS SPITALE



When the idea for the Mimobot USB drive first flashed through Mimoco founder Evan Blaustein's mind, his inner circuits conjured up a platform that was equal parts designer toy and functional flash drive—a template for his own original characters and, eventually, for licensors. To his surprise, it was Lucasfilm that came calling before Mimoco had the chance, and *Star Wars* became the first licensed Mimobot series.

The earliest inspiration for Mimobot began when Blaustein was in business school and discovered both the convenience of portable data storage devices and the collectability of designer toys. One day when he asked his future wife to lend him her USB drive, she fished into her purse and mistakenly pulled out a *Tron* Bearbrick, which he had given to her as a gift. It was at this serendipitous moment that Blaustein imagined the Bearbrick's circuit-covered body connected to a USB drive—a fusion of designer toy aesthetic with the increasing need for data storage.

"That was the zeitgeist moment," says Scott Seraydarian, Director of Content at Mimoco and a friend of Blaustein since high school. "Evan and I have had a lifelong interest in toys and comics—especially *Star Wars*—and that grew to include designer toys and then evolved into Mimoco,



"The faces on the human characters from series two were probably the most difficult to capture. We had to get the appropriate smirk on Han's face and capture Leia's spunk. Accurately getting that human aspect was harder than all of the Ewoks and Wookiees and droids combined!"

which is the ultimate extension of our love for collecting."

In recent times, there's been an explosion of vinyl toys and the rise of toys as an artistic medium. "It's great to finally see it get the recognition it deserves," says Blaustein. The Mimobot platform was always intended to be used for licensing opportunities, similar to what Bearbrick has done with established brands such as Sesame Street, Marvel, Aliens, Kellogg's, and Disney. There was even a *Star Wars* Bearbrick series as a promotion for *Star Wars* Celebration Japan in conjunction with Pepsi. Blaustein and Seraydarian aspired to one day obtain the *Star Wars* license and give their favorite film characters the Mimobot treatment. However, shortly after New York Toy Fair International in 2006 and less than a year after the launch of their first product, Lucasfilm approached Mimoco, resulting in Darth Vader, a stormtrooper, R2-D2, and Chewbacca becoming the first licensed Mimobots.

FIRST STEPS

Because the *Star Wars* license was acquired so early in the company's history, the Mimobot template was still evolving. "We were really happy to stay true to the idea of the platform toy," continues Blaustein, "but it soon became apparent that not all of our consumers understood why R2-D2

and Vader had funny little ears on their helmets, so we thought it'd make more sense to maintain the super-deformed shape, but develop new caps to accommodate recognizable characters."

"We had the same shape for the first year and half," says Seraydarian. "Star Wars series two coincided with our new direction: Han with hair, Leia with buns, Boba Fett and Luke with removable helmets." Series three rounded out the classic trilogy with Emperor Palpatine, Royal Guard, Wicket, and C-3PO.

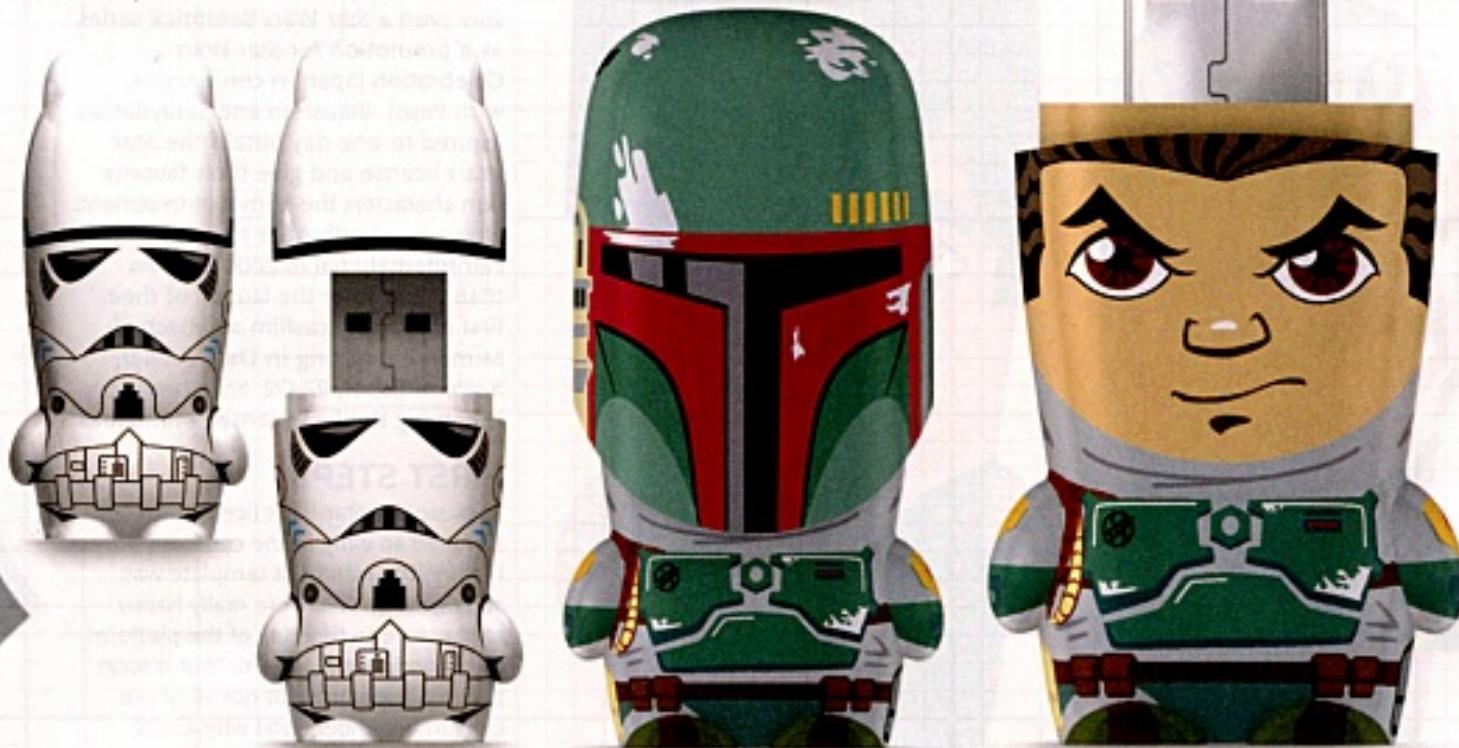
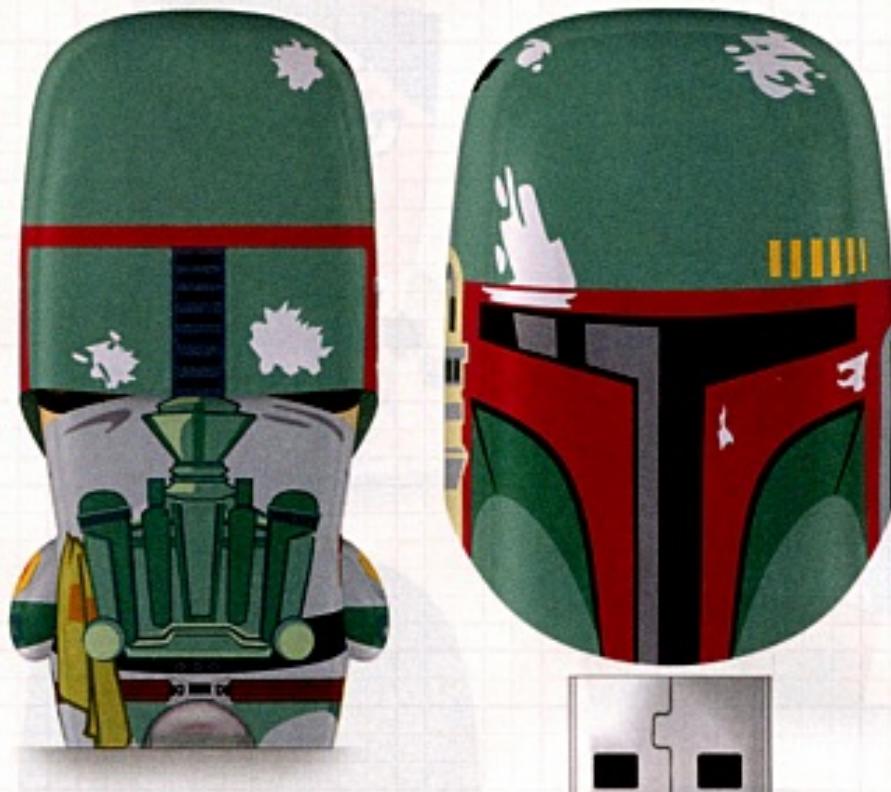
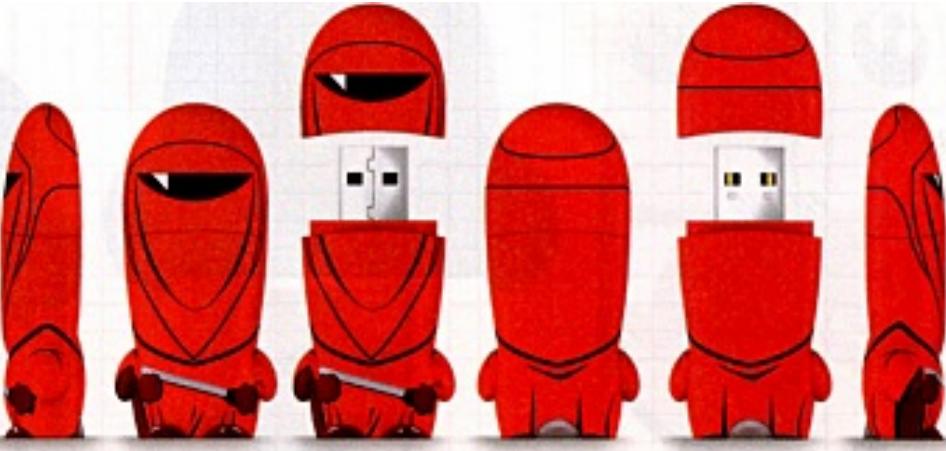
DARK SIDE

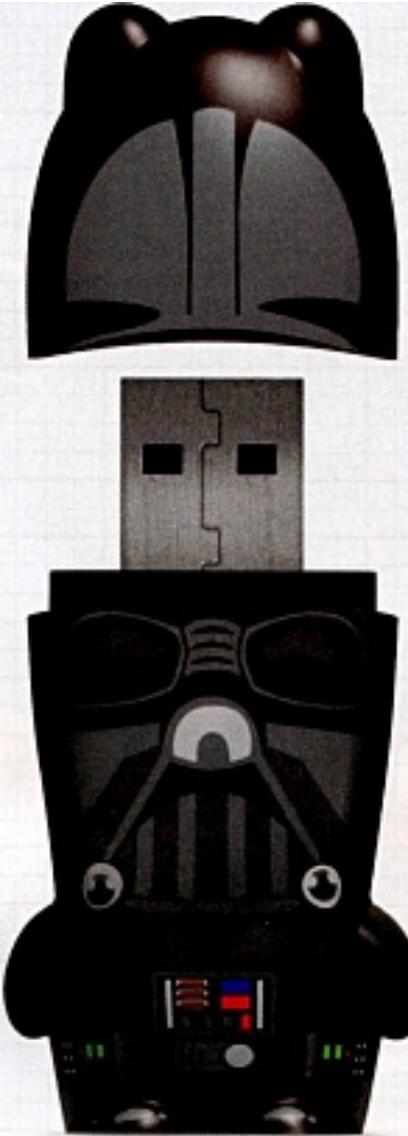
Mimoco's latest wave goes over to the dark side with its first prequel character— Sith Lord Darth Maul. It's no coincidence that wave four was released on May 19, the 10th anniversary of *The Phantom Menace*.

"We've had Darth Maul waiting for over a year now, but wanted to save him for the anniversary," says Blaustein.

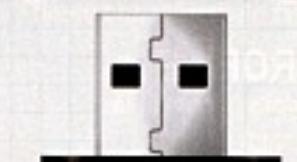
Maul isn't the only Sith Lord to make the collection. Darth Vader returns in a revamped new helmet cap like the one developed for Luke and Boba.

"Vader is our most requested character. It's been almost three years since the first series, so it was time to bring him back," says Blaustein. "This time, however, we're excited to offer our





"The hardest part of the design process is capturing the character's personality in the facial details. It's the face that really speaks to people, and each character has its own signature details."



first-ever chase assortment, and who better to explore this with than Vader? When users pull off the helmet cap of most of the Vader models, they'll find a young, prequel-era Anakin staring back, but a lucky few—one in six—will find the visage of the older, *Return of the Jedi* Anakin from his final unmasking with Luke. "Because we've never done a variant, we're curious how fans will respond to it. We hope they enjoy it as much as we enjoyed developing it!"

Rounding out the latest roster is Mimoco's first animated Star Wars: *The Clone Wars* character, Clone Captain Rex, with more animated characters likely to follow soon.

INTO THE FUTURE

Which other characters might feature in future waves? "Evan's a huge Ackbar fan, so we'd love to do an Admiral Ackbar," says Seraydarian, "but we'll likely see a General Grievous or a revised R2-D2 before we get around to him. And possibly even a TC-14, as our electroplated C-3PO has outsold every other Star Wars Mimobot that we've produced!"

When asked how they select their lineup, Blaustein says, "It's a very collaborative process. We start with our favorites, pare it down, and then look for guidance from Lucas Licensing on how these characters would fit with our

plan and how well they'd be received with the fan base. Then, we create 2-D illustrations to submit for review."

Mimoco hopes to survey consumers and sponsor a poll to help decide the assortment for series five or future waves, and perhaps even to gather suggestions on what type of content they'd like to see.

"Because we are selling a storage device, preloading content was always a given," says Blaustein. "Offering our customers wallpapers, screensavers, avatars, icons, and even sound software that we've developed allows them to personalize their desktop with these characters. That's really what the Mimobot line is about—giving customers a way to express their personalities through their flash drives!" ♦

EXPANDED UNIVERSE >>>

Mimobots are available in 1GB, 2GB, 4GB, and 8GB sizes.

DATABANK

Smuggler, pilot, and charming rogue, Han Solo was capable of surprising even himself at times. He certainly never expected to find himself as one of the greatest heroes of the Galactic Rebellion against the Empire and playing such an instrumental role in its defeat. Although information about his early days was sketchy at best, it is known that he spent his formative years moving from ship to ship, learning to survive in a rough galaxy where only the cunning survived. His softer side was defined by his relationship with his Wookiee first mate and co-pilot, Chewbacca, who had vowed to protect his rescuer and friend.

PROFILE

HOMeworld: Corellia

SPECIES: Human

GENDER: Male

HEIGHT: 1.80 meters

WEAPON: Heavy Blaster Pistol

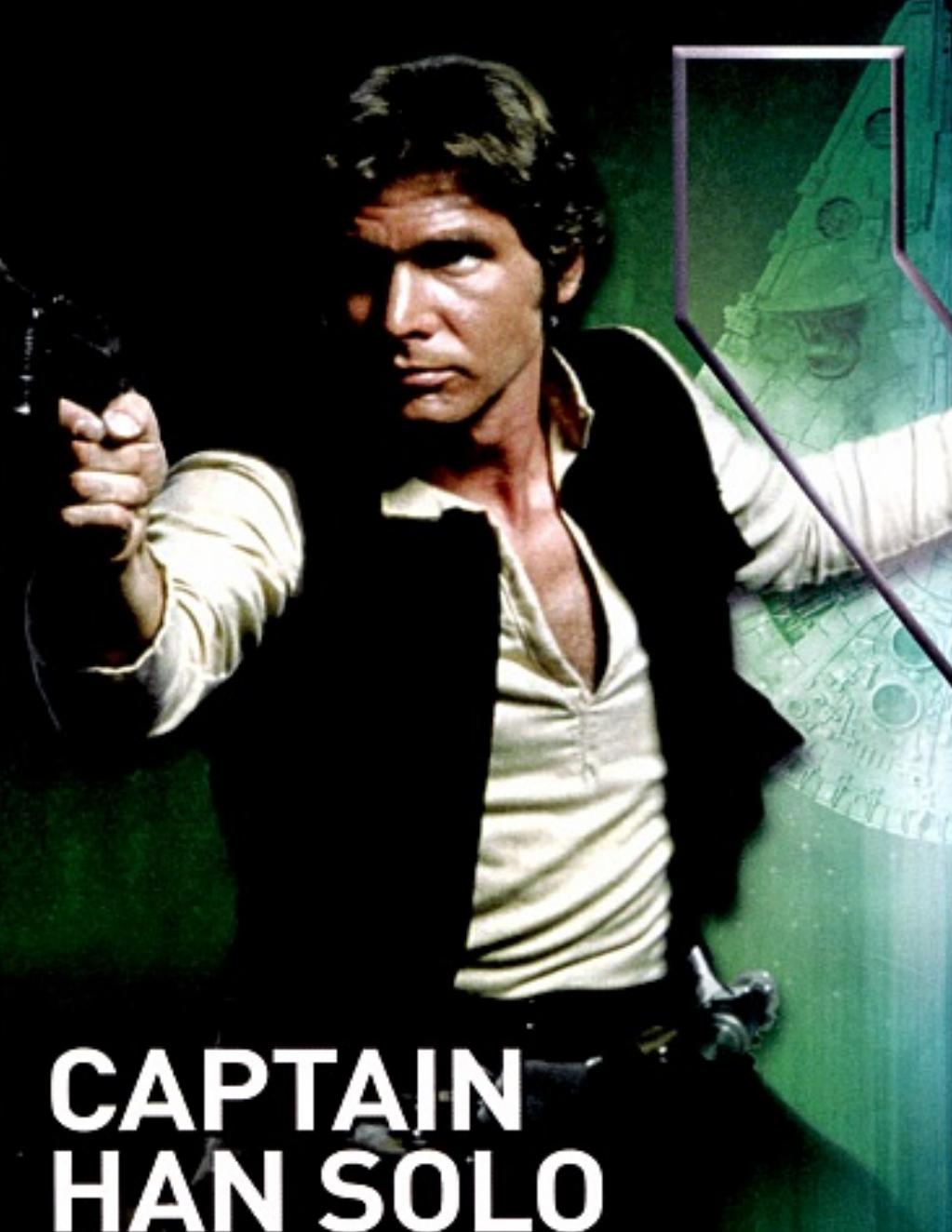
VEHICLE: Millennium Falcon

AFFILIATION: Rebellion

SKILLS

Preferring a "straight fight to sneaking around," Han Solo was a useful ally in a fight. A sure shot with a blaster, he exhibited a death-defying style of combat, preferring to face danger head-on, showing little evidence of fear. Whether charging at startled stormtroopers aboard the first Death Star or deliberately plunging the *Millennium Falcon* into a perilous asteroid field (perhaps partially to impress Princess Leia), it's a trait that led him into grave danger on numerous occasions. Yet somehow, Solo's luck held out. His abilities as a pilot, mechanic, and card player were all excellent.

STRENGTH	75
SPEED	80
POWER	50
LEADERSHIP	80
MOBILITY	80
LOYALTY	85
SPECIAL ABILITY	90
BONUS SKILL	90



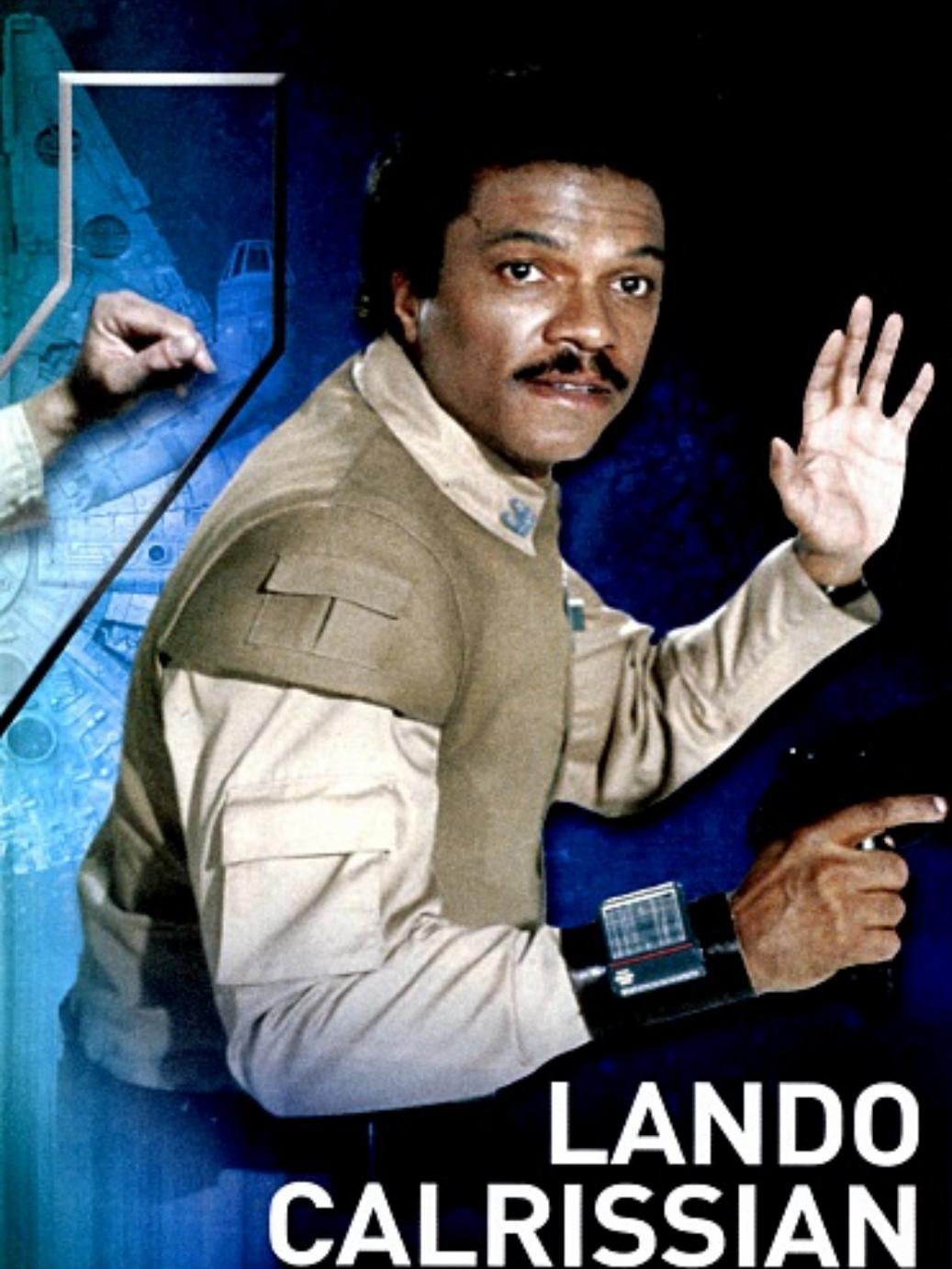
CAPTAIN HAN SOLO

Two rivals with immense pride in their achievements and abilities. Both comparable in their various skills and abilities. But what if this friendly rivalry wasn't quite so friendly? Who would emerge the victor?

Han Solo might seem arrogant, brash, cocky, and too keen to ride his own luck, but his attitude was well-placed.

His confidence with a blaster, willingness to shoot first and ask questions later, and faith in his Wookiee sidekick, Chewbacca, all helped him escape assorted dangers that would have felled men with lesser abilities and confidence.

Solo was rarely wrong, but his search for a safe haven on Cloud City resulted in him misplacing his trust in Lando



Calrissian, an old friend whose new responsibilities seemed to take precedence over any past loyalties.

There can't be many administrators who could boast the piloting skills and precision with a blaster that Lando Calrissian demonstrated throughout his numerous battles with the Empire. Not only did he help Leia, Chewbacca, and

the droids escape from Cloud City, but he was also one of only two men who could claim to have destroyed one of the Empire's dreaded Death Stars—and the other was a Jedi! Arguably he knew the *Millennium Falcon* just as well as Solo (give or take a main sensor antenna)!

Who will win? Turn to page 29 to find out!

DATABANK

Suave, sophisticated, and devastatingly smooth, Lando Calrissian, the former Baron Administrator of Cloud City, exuded a dashing sense of cool, but beneath this was a cunning warrior. Willing to play along with the enemy until the odds were more firmly stacked in his favor, Calrissian was a man deemed to be lucky although he suffered a considerable amount of misfortune. If losing the *Millennium Falcon* to Han Solo in a fateful game of sabacc wasn't bad enough, his next encounter with the Corellian resulted in him losing a whole lot more, as his life as a respectable administrator was put on hold while he took arms against the oppressive Galactic Empire!

PROFILE

HOMEPWORLD: UNKNOWN

SPECIES: HUMAN

GENDER: MALE

HEIGHT: 1.77 METERS

WEAPONS: BLASTER

VEHICLE: MILLENNIUM FALCON,

LADY LUCK

AFFILIATION: REBELLION

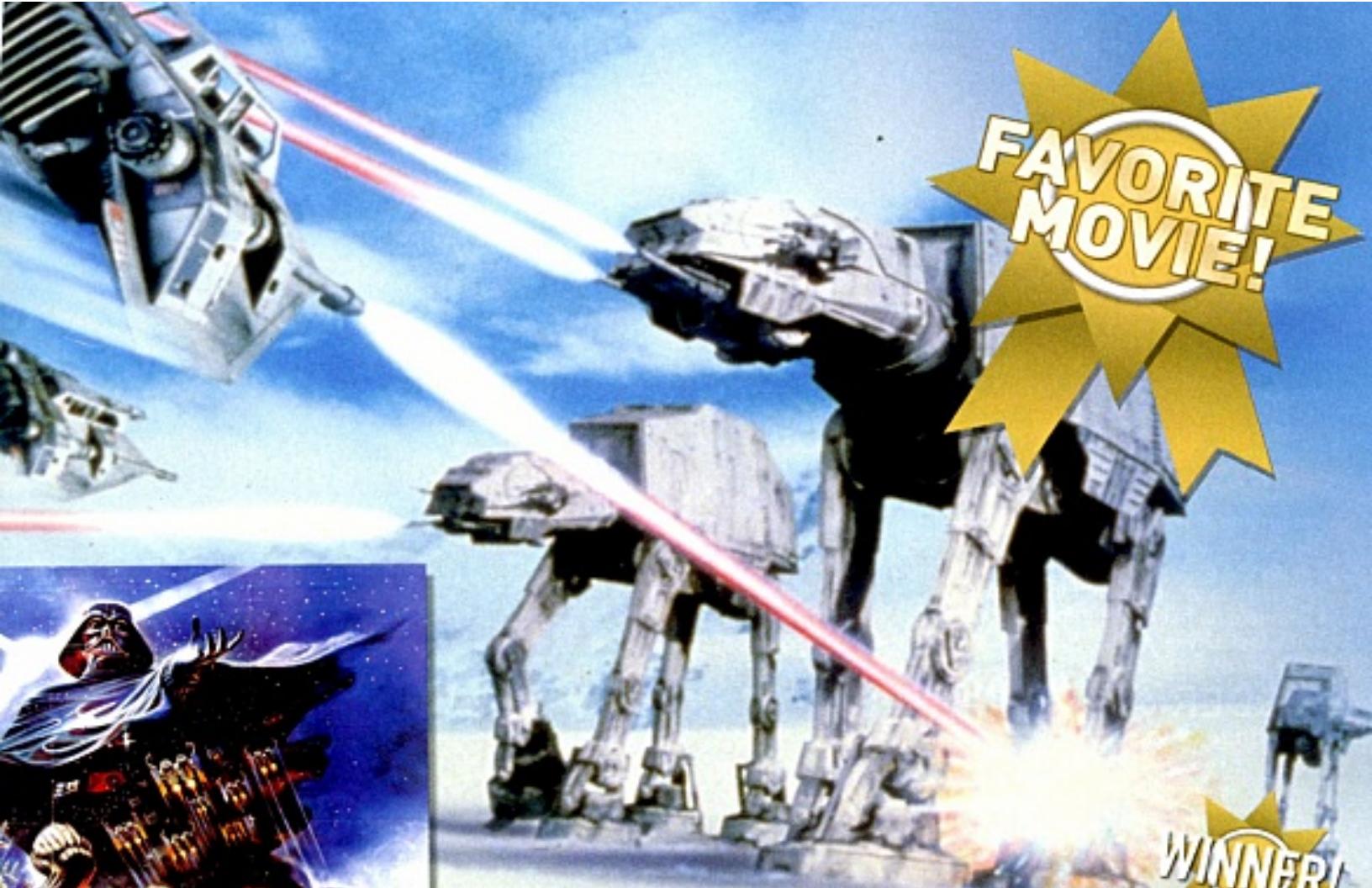
SKILLS

Adept with a blaster, skilled at strategic maneuvers such as his fabled victory at the Battle of Tanaab, and a daring pilot, Lando Calrissian's strengths afforded him many victories and earned him a promotion to the rank of general of the Rebel forces. A respected leader with natural authority, he took charge during the Battle of Endor, placing his faith in his friends on the surface of the forest moon when those higher in command were calling for a retreat.

75	STRENGTH
80	SPEED
60	POWER
90	LEADERSHIP
80	MOBILITY
50	LOYALTY
75	SPECIAL ABILITY
80	BONUS SKILL



FAVORITE
MOVIE!



Everyone has their favorite *Star Wars* movie. We received votes for all of the movies and for a long time the winner looked like it would be *Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith*, but eventually Irvin Kershner's masterpiece from 1980 won out! You guys sure like your *Star Wars* movies dark!

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

RUNNERS UP:

2. *Revenge of the Sith*
3. *A New Hope*
4. *Return of the Jedi*
5. *The Phantom Menace*
6. *Attack of the Clones*



WINNER!



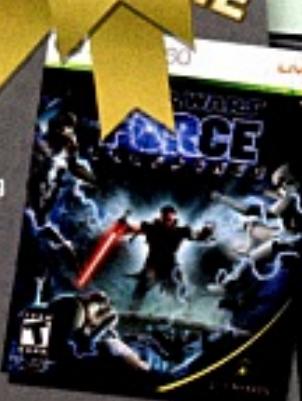
Ever since the classic *Star Wars* coin-op took arcades by storm in the early 1980s videogame fans have had the chance to experience what it's like to take on the Empire—or in some cases take on the Rebels—and interact with the *Star Wars* universe.

Your favorite title is the epic 2008 game that wove an award-winning story with stunning gameplay, fast-paced action, and ground-breaking physics. You loved becoming Darth Vader's secret apprentice in:

STAR WARS: THE FORCE UNLEASHED



FAVORITE
VIDEOGAME



FAVORITE MOMENT

The *Star Wars* saga is so full of great moments that many participants couldn't just name one. From exciting space battles to poignant character moments, it's hard to disagree with the reader who told us her favorite moment was "the last 32 years!"

ORDER 66. **WINNER!**

Revenge of the Sith

RUNNERS UP

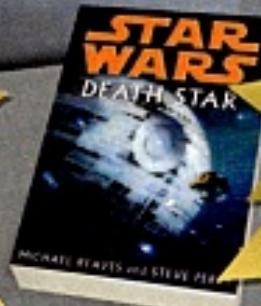
2. "I love you." "I know."
The Empire Strikes Back
3. The Battle of Hoth
The Empire Strikes Back
4. Darth Maul takes on the Jedi
The Phantom Menace
5. Assault on the Death Star
A New Hope

FAVORITE NON-FICTION BOOK

There are many *Star Wars* non-fiction books out there, all enhancing our enjoyment of the saga. However, you voted for your favorite title in huge numbers. The winner is the essential (and very heavy) three-volume reference book:

THE COMPLETE STAR WARS ENCYCLOPEDIA

by Steve Sansweet with Pablo Hidalgo, Dan Wallace, Bob Vitas, Mary Franklin, Josh Kushins and Chris Cassidy



FAVORITE FICTION BOOK

Finding an outright winner for the most popular fiction title proved to be a tough call. A lot of fans voted for novelizations of the *Star Wars* movies with Matthew Stover's *Revenge of the Sith* adaptation proving to be a popular choice. The eventual winner, just edging out Karen Traviss' excellent *Sacrifice*, is:

DEATH STAR

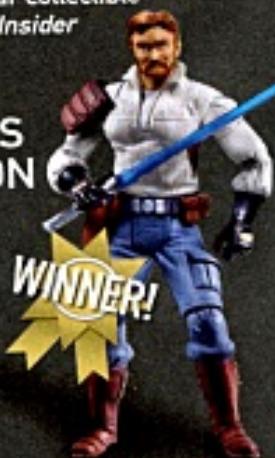
by Michael Reeves and Steve Perry

FAVORITE MERCHANDISE

For many fans, it's all about the collecting! Everybody is a fan of either a particular licensee, character, or aspect of the saga. The most popular collectible with *Star Wars Insider* readers is:

HASBRO'S 3 3/4" ACTION FIGURE LINE

WINNER!



STAR WARS

INSIDER

FAVORITE
INSIDER
ISSUE!

It was another close one, but with the largest amount of votes (and for reasons that become clear further down the page) the winning issue is:

STAR WARS
INSIDER 107

WINNER!
FAVORITE
INSIDER
FEATURE

There seemed to be little contest in choosing your favorite feature. The winner by a considerable number of votes is:

TOY WARS: BEHIND THE SCENES AT HASBRO

by Jason Fry
(STAR WARS INSIDER 107)

You voted, in huge numbers, for our interview with a man who has been part of the *Star Wars* universe since the beginning! It was a close ballot, but the top five are:

1. ANTHONY DANIELS
(STAR WARS INSIDER ISSUE 107)
2. Rob Coleman (ISSUE 107)
3. Stuart Freeborn (ISSUE 102)
4. Dave Filoni (ISSUE 102)
5. Ben Burtt (ISSUE 98/99)

WINNER!



MOST
WANTED

Ok, so we all want something we can't have or that doesn't exist, but what topped your wishlist? Some would like to see a Darth Krayt action figure. Good news check out page 60! some would like to see a novel focused on Plo Koon, while *Star Wars* Battlefront III was very nearly the most popular choice for things we demand! Ultimately, the item readers most want to own is:

A LIFE-SIZED SCULPTURE OF HAN SOLO IN CARBONITE

FAVORITE
INSIDER
INTERVIEW

One voter asked for a joint interview with Sir Alec Guinness and Ewan McGregor—now that would be fascinating reading! However there's only one name you wanted and that, of course, is the incredibly busy (but we'll try!) creator of the saga:

GEORGE LUCAS

MOST
WANTED
INTERVIEW

Which part of the magazine do you flick to first? Plenty of votes went to both Bantha Tracks and Bounty Hunters, proving that *Star Wars* fandom is thriving! However, just beating it by a whisker was:

TOYS

FAVORITE
REGULAR
DEPARTMENT

Thanks to everyone who took the time to vote!

STAR TREK

MAGAZINE

THE ROMULANS STRIKE
Eric Bana and Clifton Collins interviews
**GO BEHIND THE SCENES
ON STAR TREK...**

...with writers, costume
and makeup designers and
many more

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FUTURE

NOT FINAL
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BLASTER

60 INCOMING! **NEW!**

ART ATTACK!

All the latest must-have collectibles:
everything from art to action figures!



57 BOOKS TIME FRAME

Carrie Fisher recalls the early days of *Star Wars* and beyond as she talks about *Wishful Drinking*!

55 BOOKS

Author Christie Golden talks *Omnis*, we timeline forthcoming titles and explore the rainbow Force!

56 ASK LOBOT



Leyland Y. Chee returns from Cloud City with all the answers to all your Star Wars questions.

58 COMICS

Take a journey back to the Old Republic, and discover why Darth Revan and Darth Malak are heroes of the Mandalorian Wars!

67 RETRO **NEW!**

She's rich, beautiful, and we all want to take her home! Discover why Princess Leia made it OK for guys to collect dolls!

70 BOUNTY HUNTERS



Meet the stars, show the evidence, win the Bounty!

72 BANTHA TRACKS

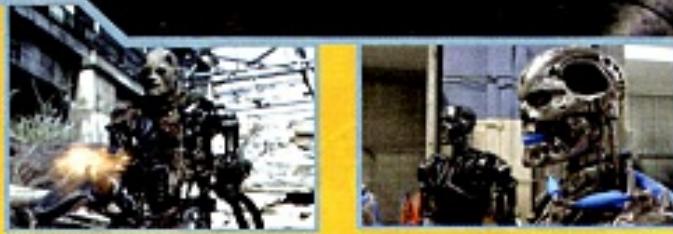


By the fans, for the fans!

"THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A GOOD BLASTER AT YOUR SIDE, KID"

TERMINATOR SALVATION

THE OFFICIAL MOVIE SOUVENIR MAGAZINE



Exclusive interviews with the cast of Terminator Salvation!

Behind the scenes on the movie with director McG and the script-writers!

A look at the creation of a whole host of new Terminators!

Page after page of full color movie photos and exclusive concept art!



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TITAN MAGAZINES

BOOKS

CHRISTIE GOLDEN TAKES HER PLACE IN THE STAR WARS AUTHOR RANKS. WORDS: JASON FRY

A GOOD OMEN

Christie Golden has been hooked on Star Wars ever since she first saw *A New Hope* in theaters as a 13-year-old. And she's a veteran author, with over 30 novels on her resume since her 1991 debut, *Vampire of Mists*. But she admits that her introduction to the Star Wars universe felt a bit like being thrown into the deep end.

"This was a real challenge," Golden says. "Not just my first *Star Wars* book, not just three, not just three hardcovers, but three that are part of a nine-book series. Wow! I gulped really hard, and then mentally said, 'Let's go!'"

Her destination: penning *Fate of the Jedi: Omen* (Del Rey, \$27), the second book in the new series written round-robin by a trio of writers: Aaron Allston, Golden and Troy Denning. The series opener, Allston's *Outcast*, saw Luke Skywalker exiled from Coruscant after a Jedi's frightening bout of insanity led to a showdown with Chief of State Daala. Joined by his son Ben, Luke has traveled across the galaxy in search of clues to Jacen Solo's fall.

In *Omen*, Golden picks up where Allston left off. More Jedi fall victim

to psychotic episodes, which can be dangerous when you're talking about Force-using, lightsaber-wielding warriors—witness the wild melee involving Jaina Solo and her parents

amid the chaos of a galactic livestock exhibition. Luke and Ben follow Jacen's trail to the edge of the galaxy, where they explore the Force as seen by the Aing-Tii monks. Golden takes us to the planet Kesh, where we meet Vestara, a young apprentice who's grown up in a society founded ages ago by the Sith and cut off from the galaxy—until now.

Golden says that she knew she'd love working with the "classic" characters, but adds that "what really surprised me was how very much I enjoyed Ben. Every now and then you find characters you slip into very easily, and it was that way with Ben, especially in his interactions with Luke."

Golden describes Ben as "16, still a teenager, and a lot of times I think he is a typical one. The banter between him and Luke came very easily, and I think by this point in their lives they're very close and comfortable with each other. But like most teens, Ben wants to be himself, not just stand in the shadow of his

STAR
WARS
FATE OF THE JEDI

OMEN
CHRISTIE GOLDEN

FUTURE READS

September 2009
Fate of the Jedi: Abyss
By Troy Denning

LEGO Star Wars: The Visual Dictionary
By Simon Beecroft

October 2009
Imperial Commando: 501st
By Karen Traviss

Star Wars: 1,000 Collectibles
By Stephen J. Sansweet with Anne Neumann

Star Wars: The Complete Vader
By Ryder Windham and Peter Vilmur

November 2009
Deathtroopers
By Joel Schrieber

parents. And there are certain things in this book over which he and Luke clash, and clash strongly."

Fate of the Jedi will see far more from Ben and Luke, as well as from Vestara, the young Sith about to be introduced to a galaxy very different than the one she was raised to expect. Though Golden got to introduce the character, she says Vestara and Kesh were brought to life by all three authors.

Golden says her contributions included "Vestara's physical appearance and personality, her passionate wanting to become a Sith Saber and perhaps even a Master one day, her ambitions and her extreme controlled discipline," while "the structure of the Sith society was a group effort. Lots of people had really great ideas that I got to fold into this culture."

It's a culture—described by Golden as "beautiful and deadly"—that will intrigue *Star Wars* fans. Golden notes that Kesh's Sith "think of themselves as the purest strain of Sith—and you know what? Allowed to grow on this out-of-the-way planet, with no alien influences, they are probably right!"

So we get further explorations of the Force, and a hothouse Sith society. Anything else? Well, there's action galore, as you'd expect from *Star Wars*—with no set piece more gripping than

BOOKS CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



ASK LOBOT

AS RELATED TO LELAND Y. CHEE



Vader's got a secret
In the Death Star conference scene in Episode IV, does Admiral Yularen know that Darth Vader is his former Jedi General, Anakin Skywalker?

Chris DeGuire, via e-mail

The true identity of Darth Vader is a closely guarded secret. Even Grand Moff Tarkin, who knows enough to acknowledge that Vader was the "last of his religion," is not privy to the fact that Vader was once Anakin. Though Wolfe Yularen served with Anakin for quite some time, there is nothing about Vader that would give him any clue that he was the same Jedi general with whom he served during the Clone Wars. That he would be assigned to a position so close to Vader is either coincidental, or perhaps something Vader personally requested.

BOOKS CONTINUED

the free-for-all in the Coruscant Livestock Exchange and Exhibition. A psychotic Jedi running around is bad enough, but having a psychotic Jedi running around while beasties like nexu are loose in the dark is much, much worse.

"If you can capture the feel of the characters and write a story that's strong, exciting and interesting, I think you've done the job well."

Golden says that scene was just a brief note in the outline for the novel, and was originally conceived as happening at a holozoo, but she expanded it, using an annual livestock show from her home state of Colorado for inspiration.

"Since this was such a pivotal scene—not just action-wise but plot-wise—I really had to think it through carefully and figure out how to show everything without bogging down the action," she says. "The scene took a lot longer than I thought it would, but I think that extra

word count was necessary to get everything across."

Golden says newcomers to her work might like her World of Warcraft tie-in novel Arthas: Rise of the Lich King, which hit bookshelves in April, or June's Twilight, the conclusion of her Dark Templar trilogy, set in the StarCraft universe.

And of course she'll be back—by then a battle-tested Star Wars veteran—for the fifth book of *Fate of the Jedi*.

"It was a challenge at first, but the more time passes the more I learn and the more I sink into the very rich and detailed lore that has sprung up around these iconic characters," Golden says, adding that "if you can capture the feel of the characters and write a story that's strong, exciting and interesting, I think you've done the job well. And I hope I have." ☀

THE RAINBOW FORCE

Ben and Luke's apprenticeship with the Aing-Tii will offer readers a new perspective on the Force—as well as their closest look yet at one of the galaxy's more mysterious species. The Aing-Tii were created for West End Games' *DarkStryder* campaign setting in the mid-1990s, and introduced to novel readers in Timothy Zahn's *Vision of the Future*. But they had remained largely offstage until Golden delved deeper into their history and beliefs in *Omen*.

"The whole idea of the Force as a rainbow was intriguing to me, as it seemed to utterly bypass the whole light side/dark side issue."

"The whole idea of the Force as a rainbow was very intriguing to me, as it seemed to utterly bypass the whole light side/dark side issue," she

says of the Aing-Tii. "Too, they were very jealous of their privacy, even to the point of xenophobia. And yet they were willing to teach Jacen and in the past had asked a human to write about them and their traditions. They seemed able to hold a lot of dichotomies. They were physically challenging as well—one would assume that among xenophobes, Basic wouldn't be known. And yet they communicated, somehow. Figuring out these little things was a lot of fun. I wanted to

make their seemingly contradictory beliefs accessible to the reader, but also keep them mysterious." ☀

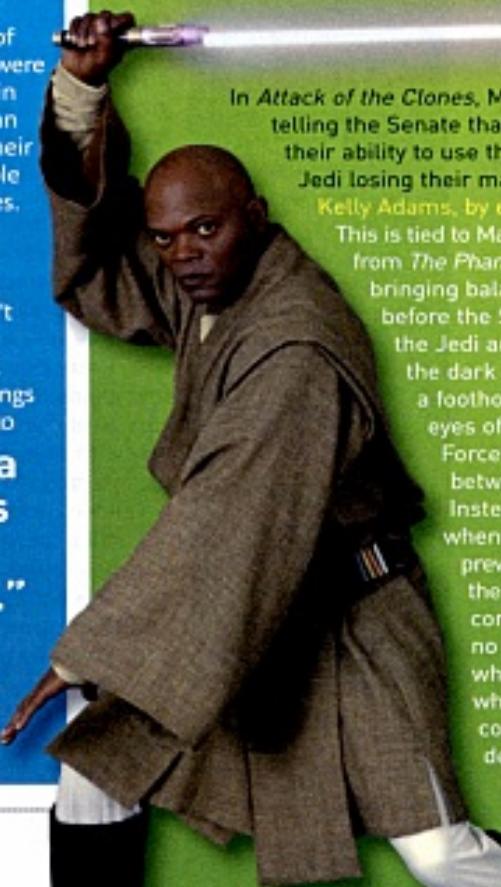
ASK LOBOT



In *Attack of the Clones*, Mace Windu talks about telling the Senate that the Jedi are losing their ability to use the Force. Why are the Jedi losing their mastery over the Force?

Kelly Adams, via email

This is tied to Mace Windu's comments from *The Phantom Menace* about bringing balance to the Force. Even before the Sith reveal themselves, the Jedi are starting to sense that the dark side is beginning to get a foothold on the galaxy. In the eyes of the Jedi, "balance to the Force" is not an equilibrium between the dark and light. Instead, balance is achieved when the dark side does not prevail. The discovery that the Sith have returned only confirms that the Force is no longer in balance. As to whether it is really Anakin who brings balance will continue to be a source of debate for years to come.



STAR WARS TIME FRAME

Carrie Fisher and Harrison Ford
on the publicity trail c. 1983

CHECKING OUT WITH CARRIE

ACTRESS, AUTHOR, ACTION FIGURE. CARRIE FISHER HAS DONE IT ALL—AND SHE RECOUNTS HER TRUE HOLLYWOOD STORY IN THE NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLER *WISHFUL DRINKING*. WORDS: CHRIS SPITALE

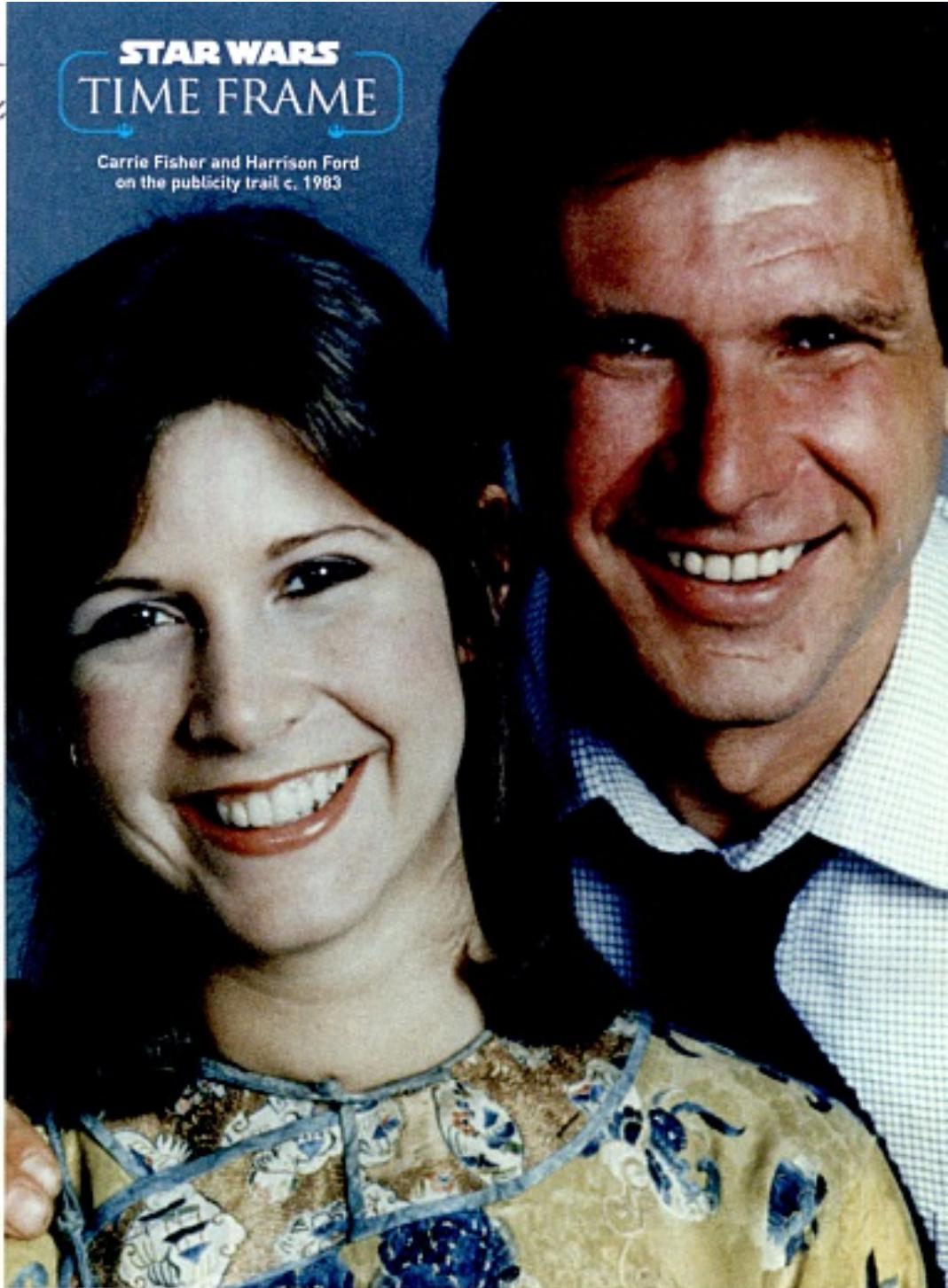
Based on her successful one-woman stage show of the same name, *Wishful Drinking* chronicles the highs and lows of Carrie Fisher's sometimes outrageous, often-dysfunctional, but always entertaining life as an industry icon.

Her previous novels, including *Postcards from the Edge*, *Defusions of Grandma*, and *The Best Awful*, have all loosely drawn from Fisher's personal struggles with addiction and mental illness amidst the fame of a Hollywood family. In *Wishful Drinking*, Fisher removes the thin veil of fiction for a revealing look into her private life, from her childhood born of Hollywood royalty (her parents were "America's Sweethearts" Debbie Reynolds and Eddie Fisher) to fame as *Star Wars'* Princess Leia, to her eventual mental breakdown from manic-depression.

Through it all, Fisher recounts a galaxy worth of juicy anecdotes with acerbic wit. "If you have a life like mine, then these experiences gradually accumulate until you become known as 'a survivor,'" she writes. "When you are a survivor, in order to be a really good one, you have to keep getting into trouble to show off your gift." It's this comic filter that allows her to laugh when she discovers a picture of her as Princess Leia in an *Abnormal Psychology* textbook or when she discovers that her stepfather's frequently-visited barber was actually a pimp with a talent for hair.

Of course, as the cover suggests, she also dishes about playing the most famous Princess in screen history. *Star Wars* fans may be surprised to learn how George Lucas made her take shooting lessons from the same professional that prepped Robert DeNiro for *Taxi Driver*; or how Mark Hamill burst a blood vessel while filming *A New Hope*'s trash compactor scene because he was so intent on making his strangulation look realistic; and when asked what line of Leia dialogue she finds hardest to forget, that would be the now-classic hologram speech ending with the unforgettable "Help me, Obi-Wan Kenobi—you're my only hope."

Star Wars Insider recently caught up with Carrie Fisher to get the latest scoop on what's next for this versatile lady.



How did the idea for *Wishful Drinking*, the stage show, come about?

Well, I've been doing speeches for a long time, sometimes for *Star Wars* events, but more often for mental illness or sobriety. Over time I had material that was evolving and people would always say to me "Why don't you do stand up?" So, I eventually cobbled them together with a friend of mine, Josh Ravnich, who is a playwright.

Wishful Drinking debuted in Los Angeles in fall of 2006, and has had limited runs in Berkeley, Santa Fe, Hartford, Washington D.C., and Boston. What's next for the show? We just wrapped tours in Seattle and Detroit in May and we are currently in negotiations to take it to the grand stage of Broadway and then later internationally.

Do you ever plan to write a more in-depth autobiography, or do you feel that much of that ground has been covered?

The next work will be more like David Sedaris and dive into short anecdotes and memories.

What else are you working on?

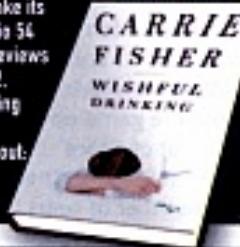
Potentially adapting *The Best Awful* into a television series. Stay tuned!

EXPANDED UNIVERSE >>>

Wishful Drinking will make its Broadway debut at Studio 54 this fall, with special previews beginning September 22, 2009 and officially running October 4 through January 3, 2010. Check out <http://carriefisher.com> for more information.

CARRIE
FISHER

WISHFUL
DRINKING



COMICS

A NEW ONLINE COMIC SETS THE STAGE FOR THE NEXT BIG
ONLINE EXPERIENCE! WORDS: DANIEL WALLACE

THE SITH RETURN!



Buzz is building around *Star Wars: The Old Republic*, a massively multiplayer online (MMO) game that will drop players into a *Star Wars* galaxy set thousands of years before the movies. Although this all-new era is uncharted territory, no worries: Dark Horse Comics and game developer BioWare are providing a sneak peek before the game opens for business.

"Threat of Peace" is an online comic hosted at StarWarsTheOldRepublic.com. Set a number of years before the game

itself, it zooms in on the Treaty of Coruscant, an unprecedented peace agreement between the Republic and the Sith Empire. "The very notion that the Sith and the Jedi could be at peace is preposterous," says writer Rob Chestney. "The Sith oppose everything the Jedi stand for. What's their real motive? The Jedi support peace, morally and philosophically, but in this case?"

"Threat of Peace" also introduces the Jedi Order's big hitters: the up-and-coming Satele Shan, the rugged soldier Orgus Din,

CAMEO FOR A CAUSE

A FAN JOINS THE *STAR WARS* UNIVERSE

At the 2007 Penny Arcade Child's Play charity auction, generous fan Pete Hotteset won an appearance in a future *Star Wars* comic. The payoff comes in issue #42 of *Knights of the Old Republic*, which introduces Republic captain Telettoh. "We were looking for an appropriate place to use the character, something that would feel like a weighty role," says writer John Jackson Miller. "Telettoh—you can guess how we came up with the name—fit the bill. It's a significant role and one that has an important place in this era's history."



and Master Zym, the head of the Jedi Council. On the Sith side are the maniacal warlord Angral and the smooth-talking but sinister Lord Baras. Bounty hunters, crime lords, and Wookiees pop up, too. Says Chestney, "There are a lot of characters and it moves fast."

Chestney has worked at BioWare since the Austin studio first began work on *The Old Republic*. He helped develop the game's narrative and stories that make up the game's backbone. "As much as I enjoyed writing for the game itself, the comic is really exciting and it's a great opportunity to explore another medium."

Set more than 3,600 years before the Battle of Yavin, "Threat of Peace" currently stands alone in this new century of *Star Wars* history. "We're talking about an era when there were thousands of Jedi and

thousands of Sith," explains Chestney. "It's also a time when Jedi and Sith weren't the only heroes and villains. There are mercenaries, smugglers, and soldiers who get involved in galaxy-spanning stories. One of the crucial things in the game is that there's not just one epic storyline. Each character class (Jedi, smuggler, and so on) gets its own saga. There's no single villain, no single hero, and no single threat."

Although the comic is designed to stand on its own, readers who go on to play the game will already have an understanding of what's going on around them and will

be able to draw conclusions about characters. "I think that's a really revolutionary dynamic," says Chestney, "and it's an opportunity that most writers don't have a chance to play with."

Artist Alex Sanchez says his job was easier because of the existing game designs. "BioWare and Dark Horse have been great at giving me tons of reference for ships, weapons, and more," he says. "But I still had a lot of design work.

The Sith and the Republic have certain weapons and use certain types of shapes, and these are recognizable no matter what time period they're set in."

While most single-issue comics contain 25 pages of story, "Threat of Peace" was designed to appear in short bursts of three pages each, separated by two-week gaps. "That's been frustrating for some people, but I really enjoy the staccato suspense that these fast-paced little releases offer,"



says Chestney. "Doing the comic online feels really immediate and alive."

In fact, "Threat of Peace" joins other previews (*Star Wars: Dark Times* and *Star Wars: Invasion*) that have been published online. Are comics getting out of the print business? "Nothing can beat holding a comic in your hands and flipping the pages," says Sanchez. "The big payoff for me is going to be when this comic is collected into a trade paperback. Web comics are part of the future of this industry, and it makes me proud to have tested the waters a little."



REVAN REVEALED

A HERO MAKES A PIVOTAL CHOICE IN
KNIGHTS OF THE OLD REPUBLIC'S "MASKS"

In the game *Knights of the Old Republic*, Darth Revan and Darth Malak battle to the death over the fate of the Sith Empire. In the comic of the same name, set seven years earlier, the two are emerging as heroes of the Mandalorian Wars. Issue #42, entitled "Masks," reveals new truths about both.

"Revan has been on the planet Cathar since issue #15, trying to find evidence of the Mandalorian genocide of the Cathar people," explains writer John Jackson Miller. "He feels that if the Jedi can experience the Mandalorian evil for themselves, they'll rise against it." What Revan finds on Cathar changes him forever, and fundamentally alters the role that he and Malak will play in the Republic.

At the same time, Malak becomes entangled with the Arkanian adventurer Jarra, who is still reeling after her shocking past came to light in issue #41. "Readers have followed Malak from his first appearance through his time as a test subject for the devilish doctor Demagol and his conflicts with the Covenant," says Miller. "His relationship with Jarra has been complicated from the start. Now, just when there seems to be an opportunity for her to explore what life would be like teamed up with Malak rather than Zayne, her buried history gets in the way. How could she ever find a place with Malak and the Jedi if they knew the truth?"



ASK LOBOT



In *The Clone Wars* episode *Hostage Crisis*, it is implied that the bounty hunters captured the Senators in the Republic Executive Building, otherwise known as the Executive Annex Dome. This is the smaller, domed building, not the Senate Building with the Grand Convocation Chamber. If the crisis took place in the Executive Annex Dome, why at the end of *Hostage Crisis*—when Cad Bane sets off the explosives—do we see the opposite building, the Senate Building with the Grand Convocation Chamber, smoking?

David B., via e-mail

Sharp eye, David! No ret-conning our way out of this one; this was a mistake. The script for *Hostage Crisis* clearly indicates that Padmé's office and the East Wing

Lobby are located in the dome-shaped Senate Office Building, to use the name from the script for *Revenge of the Sith*. The script makes no indication as to which building houses Palpatine's Office, but we can assume that it is in the Senate Office Building as well.

During production, the smoke seen in the closing shot was indeed shown coming from the mushroom-shaped Galactic Senate Chamber.

The error was spotted early on, but the changes weren't incorporated, and by the time the error was noticed again, it became too late to fix. Should we ever do a Special Edition to correct some of the mistakes of the series, this would be on the list of fixes.

INCOMING

Luke Skywalker

STAR WARS INSIDER'S GUIDE TO THE LATEST COOL STAR WARS GEAR
COMING TO A GALAXY NEAR YOU. WORDS: CHRIS SPITALE



Darth Krayt



Kyle Katarn



Yuuzhan Vong Warrior



Sigel Dare



Dark Lady Lumiya



MUST HAVE!

HASBRO

Hasbro's 3 3/4" Expanded Universe collection expands again this August as three new comic two-packs hit shelves. Based on the vintage Marvel comics series, Jedi Knight Luke Skywalker duels Dark Lady Lumiya, complete with two interchangeable heads and her unique Sith lightwhip.

Legacy #22 spotlights the evil Darth Krayt and Imperial Knight Sigel Dare. From *Star Wars Tales* #21 comes fan favorite Kyle Katarn (popularized in the illustrated *Dark Forces* trilogy) and a savage Yuuzhan Vong warrior!

KOTOBUKIYA

Continuing its new *Clone Wars* ARTFX+ Statue Series, Kotobukiya delivers a new wave of finely detailed vinyl model kits in June with Series Two: Clone Troopers. Just under 7 inches high and retailing for \$59.99, each Republic clone trooper comes with an interchangeable clone helmet and alternate human head. Each figure is also packed with bonus parts that, when assembled, create an exclusive Jet Pack Trooper! All come with interlocking, magnetized bases so that you can customize your display, and with only three characters in each themed series, it is one of the easiest build-a-figure programs to complete. Series two includes Clone Captain Rex, Commander Cody, and Commander Gree, to be followed by the final series: The Sith.



HALLMARK

The holiday season begins in July with the release of Hallmark's 2009 Keepsake Ornament collection, followed by a special *Clone Wars* set in the fall composed of Jedi Knight Anakin Skywalker and his Padawan Ahsoka Tano. July's assortment celebrates *A New Hope* with Han Solo in stormtrooper outfit, Greedo (in limited quantity), and Luke in his landspeeder (with authentic sounds). In celebration of *The Phantom Menace*'s 10th anniversary, Hallmark presents "A Deadly Duel," featuring Jedi Qui-Gon Jinn and Obi-Wan Kenobi facing off against the evil Sith Lord Darth Maul; it includes both light and sound.



ENSKY

From Japanese manufacturer Ensky, comes one of the most novel Star Wars items this year—an R2-D2 toilet paper roll holder! This soft coverlet is shaped like everyone's favorite astromech droid and comes complete with plush legs and dome. This may be the most practical Artoo product yet! Star Wars fans are already familiar with Ensky's successful line of Star Wars character magnets, and that collection just expanded with the R2 Magnet Collection, a special set of five astromech magnets, including the exclusive R5-Q5.



INCOMING continues next page

INCOMING continues

SIDESHOW COLLECTIBLES

Sideshow Collectibles brings everyone's favorite card-playing scoundrel to its growing line of fully-articulated 12-inch figures. The dashing Lando Calrissian (US \$79.99) is garbed in his Baron Administrator outfit from his first appearance in *The Empire Strikes Back* and begins charming collectors in the fourth quarter of 2009. With over 30 points of articulation, Lando comes equipped with his Rebel and Imperial blaster, interchangeable hands, wrist controller, and lined cape.

Sideshow's latest edition to its quarter-scale Premium Format line is the Scout Trooper (\$279.99) of Endor from *Return of the Jedi*.

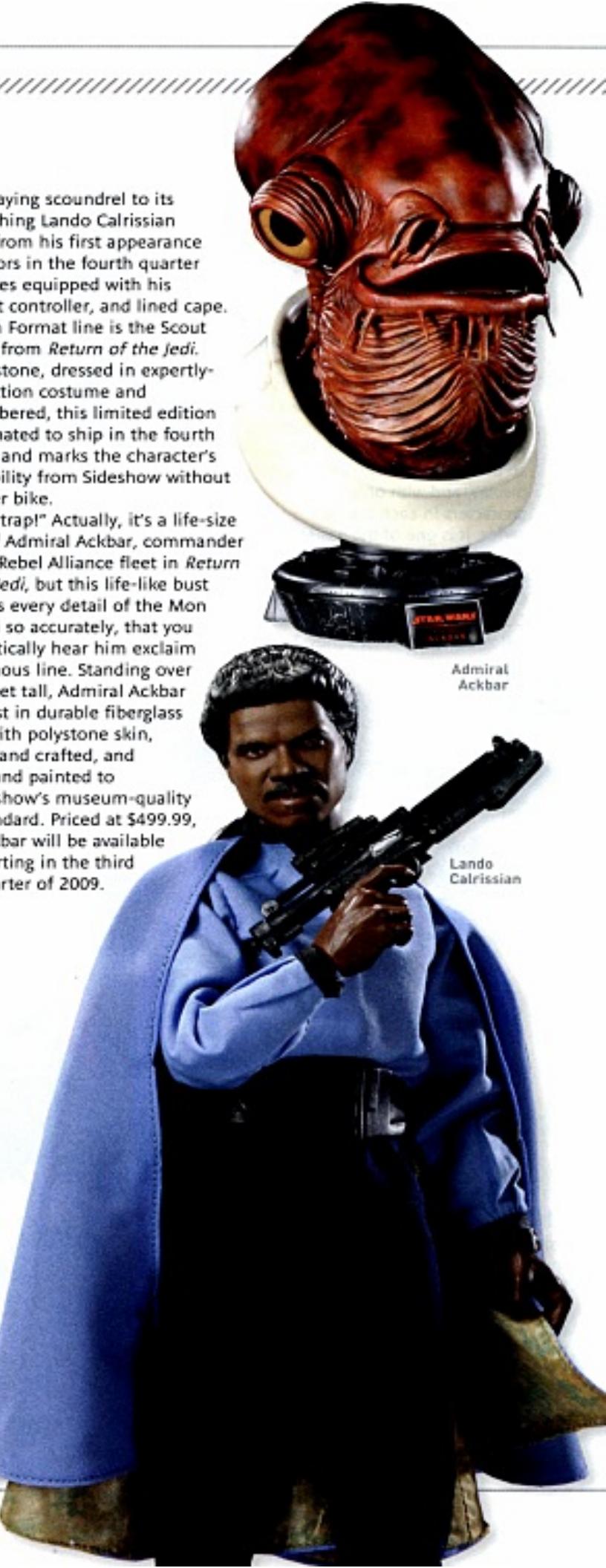
Cast in high-quality polystone, dressed in expertly-crafted scaled reproduction costume and individually hand numbered, this limited edition Scout Trooper is estimated to ship in the fourth quarter 2009 and marks the character's first availability from Sideshow without its speeder bike.

"It's a trap!" Actually, it's a life-size bust of Admiral Ackbar, commander of the Rebel Alliance fleet in *Return of the Jedi*, but this life-like bust captures every detail of the Mon Calamari so accurately, that you can practically hear him exclaim his famous line. Standing over two feet tall, Admiral Ackbar is cast in durable fiberglass with polystone skin, hand crafted, and hand painted to Sideshow's museum-quality standard. Priced at \$499.99, Ackbar will be available starting in the third quarter of 2009.

Imperial
Biker Scout

Admiral
Ackbar

Lando
Calrissian



ACME ARCHIVES

Available now from Acme Archives are three beautifully rendered art prints depicting some of the most beloved scenes from the Star Wars saga.



"STORMTROOPER"

By artist Christian Waggoner
(available in three editions)

Fine Art Giclée on Canvas
Hand signed and
embellished by the artist
24 x 30
25 piece edition
\$1,125.00 Retail

Fine Art Giclée on Canvas
Hand Signed by the artist
18 x 22
95 piece edition
\$350.00 Retail

MUST
HAVE!

Fine Art Giclée on Paper
11 x 14
195 piece edition
\$125.00 Retail



"JANGO & BOBA FETT"

By artist Tsuneo Sanda

Fine Art Giclée on Paper
Hand Signed by the
artist
16 x 26
150 piece edition
\$185.00 Retail

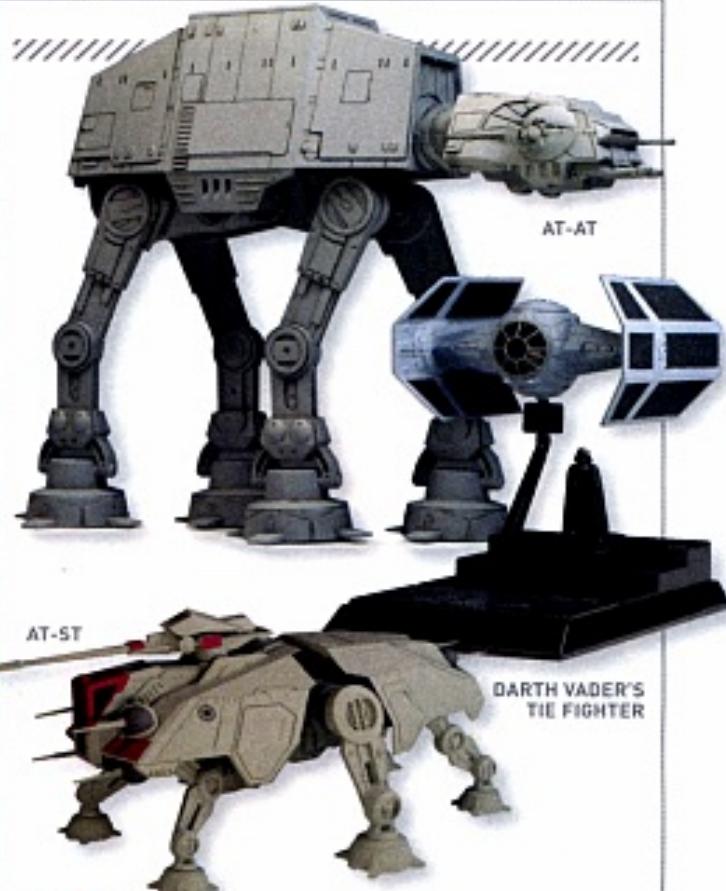


"DESTINY AWAITS"

By artist William Silvers
(available in two editions)

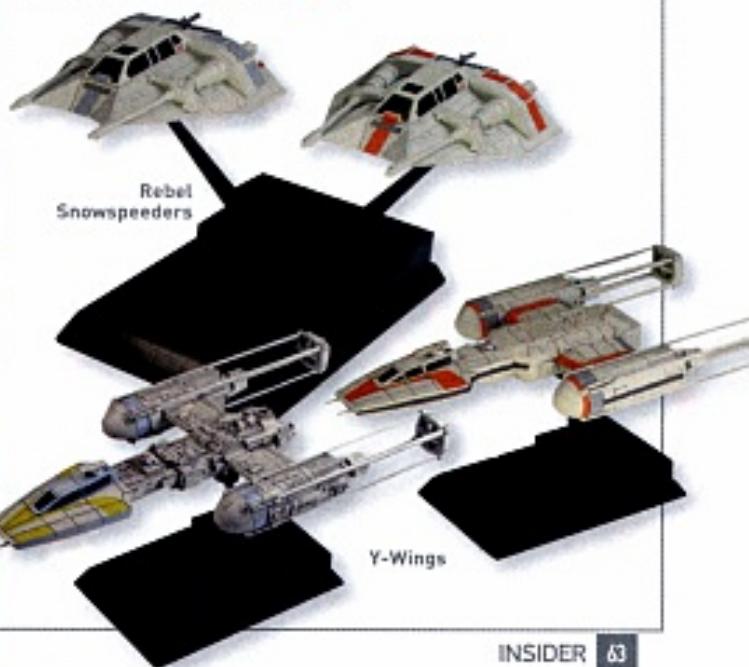
Hand Signed by artist
18 x 30
95 piece edition
\$350.00 Retail

Fine Art Giclée on Paper
13 x 22
200 piece edition
\$175.00 Retail



F-TOYS

Available only in Japan, F-toys Confection Co. has released wave two of its Star Wars miniature vehicle collection. At 1/144 scale, these highly-detailed, easily-assembled models are blind packaged with a small confection. F-toys' latest wave in its popular Star Wars series includes an AT-AT, Darth Vader's Tie fighter, Y-wing fighter, AT-TE, a pair of Rebel snowspeeders, plus one secret item. Wave one's mystery vehicle was the rarely-produced Tie crawler, and for the second wave, Ensky has surprised fans again with another first—the Y-wing starfighter with original coverings attached, as depicted in *Star Wars: Incredible Cross-Sections*. ☺



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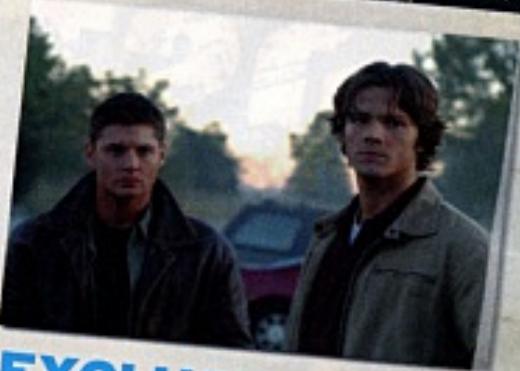
Jared and Jensen on the Season Finale!

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O'AHU APPLAUSE
BEHIND THE SCENES OF THE BIG 100

LOST © 2009 ABC Studios. All Rights Reserved.

A large image of the LOST magazine cover, featuring the main cast members (Kristen, Sawyer, Jin, and others) against a tropical background. The title 'LOST REACHES EPISODE 100!' is prominently displayed in the center. Below the title, there are several headlines and a small inset photo of the cast.



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STAR RETRO WARS

SHE'S RICH, POWERFUL AND ON THE RUN FROM THE EMPIRE.
FIND OUT WHY COLLECTORS WANT TO GET THEIR HANDS ON
PRINCESS LEIA! WORDS & PICTURES: GUS LOPEZ

TREASURES FIT FOR A PRINCESS!

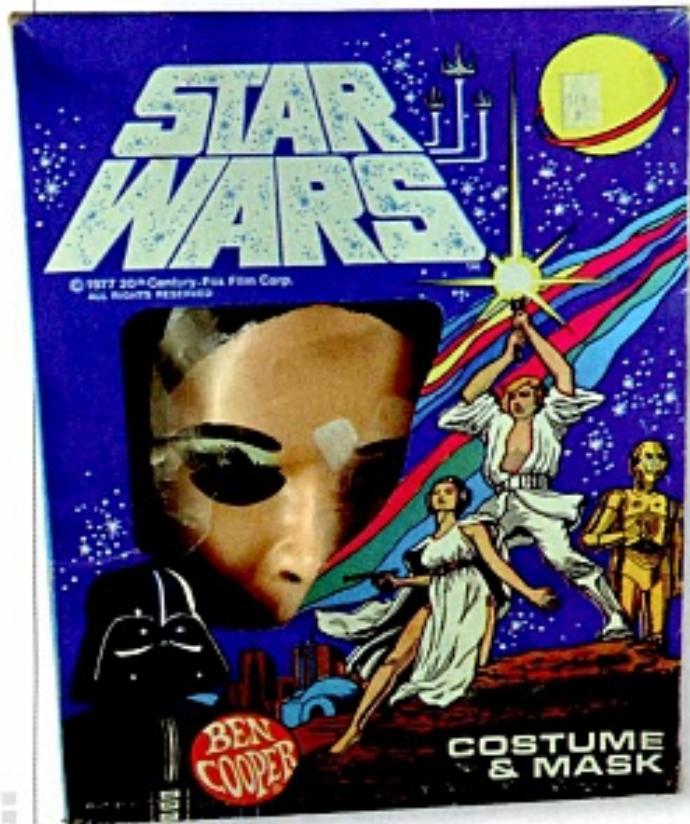
WHAT A DOLL!

For many years, the feisty, cinnamon bun-haired Princess Leia was the role model for young girls growing up within *Star Wars* fandom, and naturally this popularity translated to Leia-themed merchandise aimed at girls. In 1978, Kenner released the inevitable, much-anticipated Princess Leia doll (aka large action figure) that sold throughout the world. This doll featured Leia in her original white outfit from *A New Hope*, though instead of a blaster she came armed with a hairbrush and booklet demonstrating various hairstyles for her highness to wear. Instead of shooting away at stormtroopers with laser blasts, was Leia supposed to release static electricity from her brush? Kenner had plans to release additional outfits for Princess Leia, including an "Arctic" outfit, flight suit, and poncho leisure suit. For *The Empire Strikes Back*, Kenner designed a new outfit with updated packaging showing Princess Leia's Bespin gown, and finally added the much-needed blaster. Unfortunately, Kenner canceled the large size figure line before any additional Leia outfits went to market (only prototypes exist), and a Leia doll with other outfits would not see the light of day until Hasbro resumed the large-size action figures in 1995.



RETRO continues next page

RETRO COLLECTING continues



DRESSED TO REBEL!

One of the earliest licensees was Ben Cooper, a company producing Halloween costumes in the United States. Ben Cooper was the leading manufacturer of kids' costumes during the 1970s and created a series of Star Wars costumes for *A New Hope* that continued and expanded through *Return of the Jedi*. The Princess Leia costume was one of the first in the series and came with a plastic character mask featuring the legendary hairstyle, plus the added effect of heavy 1970s eye shadow. The multicolored blouse costume has a drawing of Leia herself, simulated belt, and the Style A poster images of the main characters to remind Leia who her friends were!

A FORCE IN FASHION!

One of the more elaborate Leia toys was the fashion set made for the Disney theme parks. The snap-together small-size Leia figures in this set can be constructed from a range of Leia hairstyles and outfits from the original trilogy and lets Leia accessorize with such items as a travel bag, award medal, hand mirror, pillow, purse, and picture frame of Han. There's even a Wicket sidekick to keep Leia company in the forest.



LITTLE LEIA!

Hot Toys' chubby series included a set of small scale Princess Leia nesting dolls. The three doll set came with the full ensemble of Leia's outfits from *Return of the Jedi*: Leia Slave, Leia Endor, and Leia as Boushh. This set is loosely based on the traditional Russian nesting dolls with one doll fitting inside another.



"NO REWARD IS WORTH THIS!"

Like many princesses before her, Leia would get minted on Star Wars collectible coins over the years. Kenner released silver-toned Leia coins for its short-lived Power of the Force toy promotion including different coins for Leia in her original outfit, Endor uniform, and Boushh disguise. The dies for the Kenner Endor Leia coin would get reused years later for Hasbro's Millennium Mint series in a gold-toned version of the coin. Nestlé created a Leia coin as a cereal premium in the mid 1990s for a promotion in Spain, and a Princess Leia coin was produced as a premium for the California Lottery in 2005.



LIFE-SIZED LEIA!

One of the highlights of Carrie Fisher's new one-woman stage show is a slideshow of some of the more unusual Princess Leia items that have been produced with her likeness over the years. The show features a surprise visit by Gentle Giant's awesome life-sized animated Leia statue. This fiberglass statue is based on the small-scale Gentle Giant animated statues that are popular with collectors. Posed with attitude and blaster set to stun, this is a fitting tribute to Alderaan's finest!

SPUD WARS!

There was no escape for the Princess from Hasbro's Star Wars Mr. Potato Heads, and Leia Organa would be dubbed "Princess Tater" for this pun-laden series. This toy was introduced as a Star Tours exclusive at Disneyworld and came with a blaster accessory instead of a hairbrush or potato peeler.

"UNDERPANTS FIT FOR A PRINCESS"

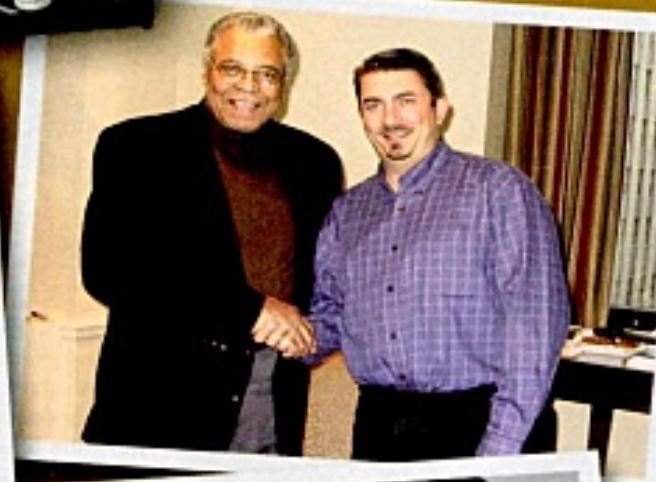
Thirty years ago, Underoos were all the rage on the kids underwear scene, and for *The Empire Strikes Back*, Princess Leia would get her own set of Underoos based on her Hoth outfit, which was then followed with a new set for *Return of the Jedi* based on Leia's Endor outfit. The Leia Underoos were featured in at least one memorable television commercial of the period, featuring the immortal line, "I feel like Princess Leia in my Underoos." Like most of the items in the Star Wars Underoos line, sealed sets of the Leia *Return of the Jedi* Underoos are more in demand and scarcer in supply than the earlier *Empire* series. ☺



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A JEDI, A SITH, AND A PRINCESS!

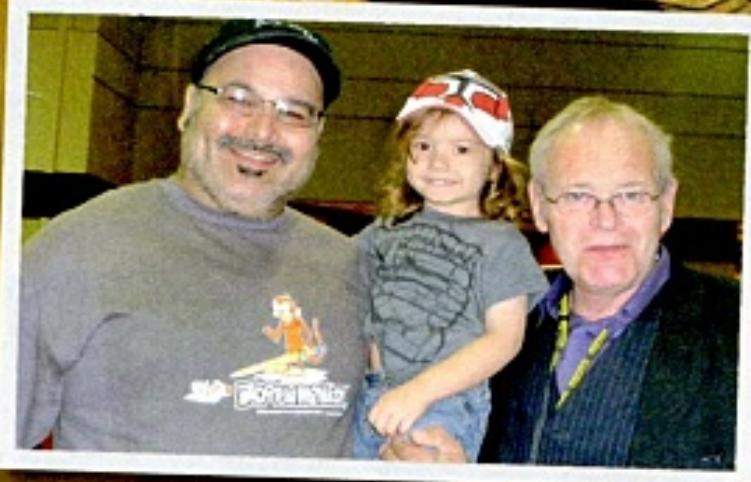
A buddy told me I should enter Bounty Hunters. Here are a few of my favorite pictures of me with some of the many Star Wars actors I have met: Carrie Fisher, Samuel L. Jackson, and James Earl Jones!

Ben Stevens, by email

Congratulations Ben. You certainly brought in the bounty for us this issue!

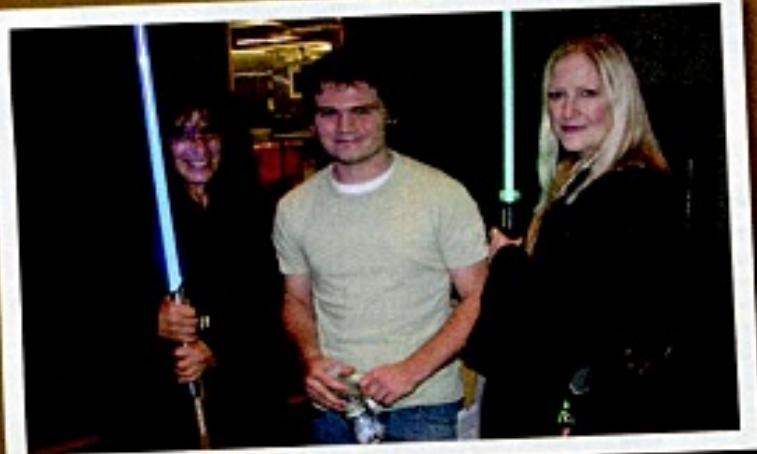


WE ALSO HEARD
FROM THE
FOLLOWING
BOUNTY HUNTERS...



MOTTI AND CO!

Here is a picture of Admiral Motti (Richard Le Parmentier), my son Tanner (three-years old) and myself at Mega-Con in Orlando, Florida. He's a really nice man with a great sense of humor and, of course, he's fondly remembered as the first person we get to see punished by Darth Vader using the Force!
A. Daniel Carreras, Florida, U.S.A.



JUNIOR JEDI!

This photo was taken at Dragon*Con 2008 in Atlanta where I was lucky enough to meet Anakin Skywalker himself, Jake Lloyd, who was participating in some of the Star Wars panels. Fellow Jedi Assembly member Susan Hernandez and I were his costumed escorts. I'm pleased to say that he was extremely nice and good-natured, showing no signs of falling to the dark side!
Phyllis Schulte, by email



PRODUCER'S PAL

I got the pleasure of meeting one of the producers of the original trilogy, Robert Watts, at *Star Wars* Fan Days II in Plano, Texas. He is an incredible person to talk to and he was very friendly. Before the picture was taken, he told me to put on his crew jacket and hold the clapperboard from *The Empire Strikes Back*.
Michael Olsen, Iowa, U.S.A.

BANTHA TRACKS: BY THE FANS FOR THE FANS

Vol.
41

BANTHA TRACKS

BY THE FANS,
FOR THE FANS.

WE'RE FANS, AND WE MEAN IT!

Bantha Tracks presents just a few of many examples that prove to us that the *Star Wars* fan community shines brightest in every possible way. From grand personal obsessions to unequalled acts of charity, *Star Wars* has the best fans in the galaxy.

Don't forget to check out *Bantha Tracks* online for even more fantastic examples of fan activity from all across the world, including the story of a very special *Star Wars* autograph collection!



ABOVE: "These parents braved the snow in Kansas City so that their two-year-old could meet 'Bacca," writes Angie Mayhew, wife of Peter Mayhew. "Brianna brought a medal and her father said he wanted his princess to be the one to give Chewie his medal. It was just precious."

BANTHA TRACKS SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Any original art, envelope art, comics, illustrations, news, stories, meeting information, or any materials voluntarily submitted become the property of *Bantha Tracks*. All images should be 300dpi screen resolution, approx 1MB per image. No compensation will be given for voluntary submissions, and there is no guarantee of publication. Submissions will not be returned. Each submission

must include the creator's name, age, contact information, date the work was created, and a statement that the work is original, created by the person submitting it, and that the person is a member of the official *Star Wars* Fan Club. Send your electronic files to banthatracks@starwars.com, or send your snail mail to *Bantha Tracks*, c/o Mary Franklin, P.O. Box 29901, San Francisco, CA 94129



ABOVE The plate says it all. Photo and plate by YZ Freedman.

GET IN TRACKS!



LEFT AND BELOW: During Spring Break this year, the Wilson family journeyed from Southern California up the coast to San Francisco, the home base of Star Wars and the Lucasfilm companies.

"We took this opportunity to visit the Letterman Digital Arts Center, home of Lucasfilm," writes Trisha Wilson. "This was the highlight of our trip. We visited the Yoda Fountain and hung out for a little bit in the lobby. My kids said that was the best part of the trip. I know they'll remember this forever."

Pictured at the fountain are Luke (5), Gavin (10), Calli (7), Brody (3), and Trisha.



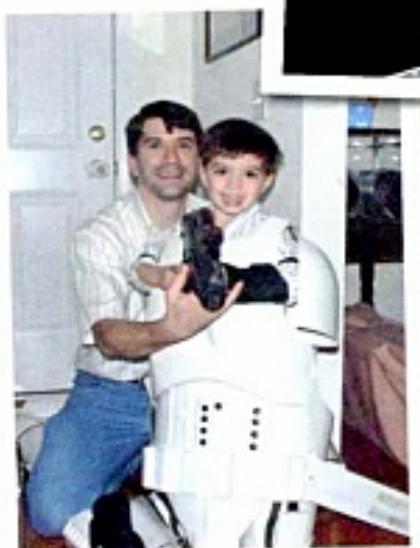
ABOVE & LEFT: "My husband, Ray Noble, is a huge fan and collector," writes Alicia Noble. "He has been collecting since 1981, when he was six years old." Noble signed herself "Patient Wife."





BANTHA TRACKS: BY THE FANS FOR THE FANS

RIGHT: Stephen Simyak and Tara Tremaine had one extremely cool Millennium Falcon wedding cake, created by Cassie's Custom Cakes in Atascadero, California. "It was a massive hit," writes Simyak, "and the best tasting cake I have had in a long time."



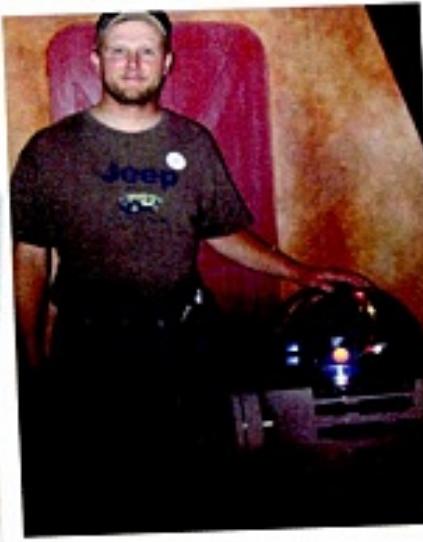
ABOVE AND BELOW: Xander, godson of Star Lady and Club Jade member Paula Rosenberg, is being well-groomed to be part of the next generation of fans.

"Xander's dad, Evan, is a member of the Georgia Garrison of the 501st," writes Rosenberg. "He got out his armor and three-year-old Xander decided he wanted to try it on. It brings new meaning to the quote, 'Aren't you a little short for a stormtrooper?'"



GET IN TRACKS!

RIGHT AND BELOW: Star Wars Fan Club member Melissa Perner and her husband spent part of their summer vacation at Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination, then at the Fort Worth Museum of Science. "We drove six hours from our hometown of Ozona, Texas to experience this exhibit," writes Perner. "It was well worth it!"



RIGHT: Mark Gilbert II sent in this photo of his mother, competing in the Dragon*Con costume contest as "Order 66."

"My mom is a huge Star Wars fan," writes Gilbert. "Last year, and for almost a year, she fought her second type of cancer. When she was a baby she had a rare eye cancer that made her lose an eye. In November 2006 she was diagnosed with skin cancer on top of her head. She had surgery to remove it, but the skin graft left her without hair on top of her head. Then it was discovered that the surgery did not get all the cancer. She had to undergo radiation treatments which made her lose the rest of her hair and left her exhausted."

"Some good friends helped her get to Dragon*Con last year where she participated in the Star Wars Costume Contest," continues Gilbert. "She took advantage of her post-cancer looks by removing her artificial eye and using makeup to make her look more scarred than she already is."

Concludes Gilbert, "I really think her Star Wars friends helped her get through her ordeal."





Jeff Romanoff and Eric Seemann, with members of the 501 Legion's Garrison Carida, at the Lehigh Valley Kidney Walk in Allentown, Pennsylvania, October, 2008. Photos submitted by Joe Milicia.



EDITORIAL BY MARY FRANKLIN

10 • STAR WARS

THE FRIENDS OF OUR LIVES, PART II

In Bantha Tracks Issue #40, we celebrated the *Star Wars* fan community of the last 10 years, a community that largely took root



Darth Vader (Mark Gau) visits Jeff Romanoff at the hospital shortly before his surgery. Photo courtesy of Cleveland Clinic.

in 1999 with the opening of *The Phantom Menace*, and expanded into a tightly-knit worldwide phenomenon. We celebrated those fan connections, particularly the selfless gift of Barry Benecke, who donated a kidney to fellow fan Josh Weisberg, whom he had not previously met in person. The operations for the two men occurred in early February, and I'm pleased to report both are recovering well.

It would be hard to describe my surprise when, shortly after writing about Benecke and Weisberg, I received an email telling about another kidney donation between *Star Wars* fan friends: donor Eric Seemann and recipient Jeff Romanoff. Both men are members of the 501st Legion, the *Star Wars* costuming group.

Seemann first heard of the 501st Legion in 2004 when he stopped to make a donation on the streets of New York City. Costumed *Star Wars* characters, from Romanoff's Garrison Carida and from New York's Empire City Garrison, were collecting money to help with chemotherapy for young Katie Johnson, the daughter of 501st founder Albin Johnson. The iconic *Star Wars* costumes combined with charitable good works captured Seemann's attention, and by 2007 he had stormtrooper armor of his own and joined the ranks of the Empire City Garrison. Later, in 2008, while appearing in costume at the Franklin Institute's exhibit in Philadelphia, *Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination*, Seemann heard that Romanoff, whom he had coincidentally met while donating in New York in 2004, was suffering from Von Hippel-Lindau disease. The rare condition led to kidney cancer. Romanoff had lost his right kidney to tumors, and the left was failing. Seemann decided to be tested to see if his kidney would be a match, and possibly a chance at life, for Romanoff. It turned out that Seemann's kidney was a match, and the surgery date was set.

It's reportedly not that uncommon for



potential donors to be tested to see if they can give a kidney to members of their close family. It speaks to the incredibly tight bonds in the *Star Wars* community that these fans are willing to treat each other with the kind of closeness usually reserved for family members.

Surgery for both men was April 3, and both are recovering. Romanoff's new kidney will be unaffected by the past disease.

"The greatest thing was when the doctor came in and said that they had removed all of the visible cancer from Jeff," says Seemann. "I knew that I had made a difference that day."

Writes Romanoff, "Eric is a true hero and emulates everything *Star Wars* is about. A wonderful, selfless friend, putting his life on the line, so I may see my son grow up."

In addition to supporting both men with friendship and hospital visits, both in and out of costume, the members of the 501st Legion raised the money to pay for Seemann's travel to the Cleveland Clinic for the surgery.

"*Star Wars* has been a part of my life since I was nine years old," concludes Romanoff. "I feel blessed that I can be a part of such a wonderful club like the 501st. It's given us the opportunity to touch so many lives. Over the last 10 years, I've visited countless children's hospitals with Carida. That's the reward."

Get in Tracks!
Mary Franklin





WHO'S WHO?

HAN SOLO

A rogue and a scoundrel, exactly the kind of guy who'd shoot first (1977), who'd only retaliate when threatened (1997), or who'd shoot simultaneously (2004)! Here we see the raw Solo, before he becomes involved in the Rebellion and finds a new purpose to his life. He's a smuggler looking out for number one and his trusty sidekick, Chewbacca, and for whom providing a taxi service for Obi-Wan Kenobi and Luke Skywalker is just another quick little earner.

GREEDO

He's in the film for mere minutes, but Greedo became an iconic *Star Wars* character—he's the first bounty hunter we meet and he introduces crime boss Jabba, who (in the 1977 version) we won't see until the third film in the original trilogy. This Rodian is a little dumb if he thinks his tactics of offering to be bought off and then threatening violence would work. Instead, they give Solo enough justification to blast him.



WHAT THEY SAID

GEORGE LUCAS

"The thing that really caused the trouble on *Star Wars* is the whole question of whether Han Solo or Greedo shoots first. The way it got cobbled together at the time, it came off that [Han] fired first. He didn't fire first. It's a correction. I said, 'Well, I don't have that shot, so I'll just, you know, fudge it editorially.' In my mind [Greedo] shot first or at the same time. We like to think of [Han Solo] as a murderer because that's hip—I don't think that's a good thing for people."

Entertainment Weekly, September 2004



HAN SHOOTS FIRST

1977 [Script] [deleted dialogue in brackets]

INTERIOR MOS EISLEY—CANTINA

As Han is about to leave, Greedo, a slimy green-faced alien with a short trunk nose, pokes a gun in his chest. The creature speaks in a foreign tongue translated into English subtitles.

GREEDO: Going somewhere, Solo?

HAN: Yes, Greedo. As a matter of fact, I was just going to see your boss. Tell Jabba that I've got his money.

Han sits down and the alien sits across from him holding the gun on him.

GREEDO: [It's too late.] You should have paid him when you had the chance. Jabba's put a price on your head so large that every bounty hunter in the galaxy will be looking for you. I'm lucky I found you first.

HAN: Yeah, but this time I've got the money.

GREEDO: If you give it to me, I might forget I found you.

HAN: I don't have it with me. Tell Jabba...

GREEDO: Jabba's through with you. He has no time for smugglers who drop their shipments at the first sign of an Imperial cruiser.

HAN: Even I get boarded sometimes. Do you think I had a choice?

Han Solo reaches for his gun under the table.

GREEDO: You can tell that to Jabba. He may only take your ship.

HAN: Over my dead body.

GREEDO: That's the idea. I've been looking forward to this for a long time.

HAN: Yes, I'll bet you have.

Suddenly the slimy alien disappears in a blinding flash of light. Han pulls his smoking gun from beneath the table as the other patrons look on in bemused amazement. Han gets up and starts out of the cantina, flipping the bartender some coins as he leaves.

HAN: Sorry about the mess. ☺

WHY IT'S A CLASSIC

"I happen to like to shoot first, Rekkon. As opposed to shooting second," said Han Solo in *Han Solo at Stars' End* from 1979, long before the "Han shot first" controversy. The entire cantina sequence is a tip of the hat to the kind of Western genre films that inspired much of *Star Wars* (and the classic serials it was referencing). The ruthless character of Solo plays right into this: He's a survivor, willing to shoot first in self-preservation. It's a funny scene that also informs our view of one of the film's central characters. Is he a trust-worthy ally or a simple mercenary out for all he can get? His character mingles through the series as he becomes more involved with the Rebellion and a certain princess, but the audience had to first encounter the hard-edged Solo for the character development to have any impact.

NEXT TIME: "EXECUTE ORDER 66!"

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES

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Aaron Ashmore on Jimmy

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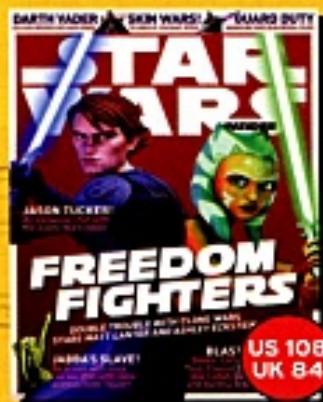
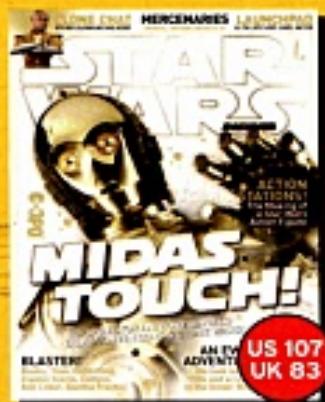
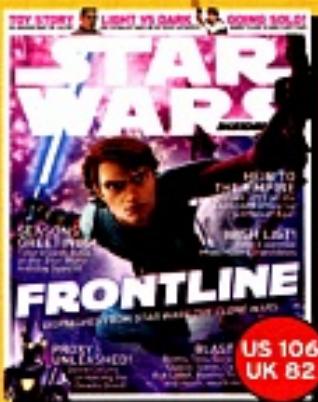
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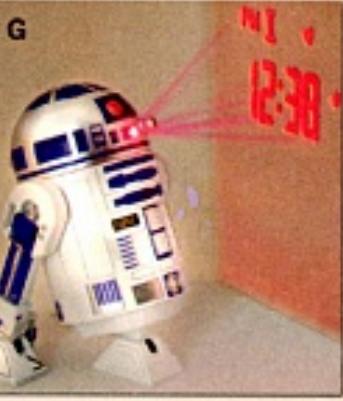
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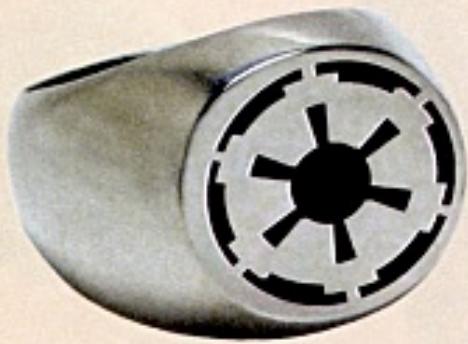
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